

FRENCH INTERVENTION  
IN MEXICO  
AS REFLECTED BY  
A FEW REPRESENTATIVE  
HISTORICAL NOVELS.

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AS REFLECTED BY A FEW  
REPRESENTATIVE HISTORICAL NOVELS

BY

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## PREFACE

In writing this thesis I attempted to keep in mind the history of the period and to see if these novels were true to the course of events.

I have found that the novels studied verified the historical trend. This can be explained by the fact that each of the authors was an eyewitness to the incidents he described, e.g. Vicente Riva Palacio was a general in the republican army.

I became interested in Mexico and its history because of a visit there during the summer of 1936. I saw many of the historical places mentioned in the novels, and my curiosity in Mexican life and literature has steadily increased.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Professor A. A. Arnold, Dr. Glenn B. Hawkins, Dr. T. H. Reynolds and Professor Anna L. Oursler for their valuable assistance and inspiration.



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## HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

On the thirty-first of October, 1861 a treaty was signed in the city of London by England, France and Spain. By the terms of the treaty the three nations that were parties to it were to send sufficient naval and military forces to Mexico to seize and occupy the fortresses and military positions on the coast for the purpose of securing the customs revenues of the principal ports of entry. The treaty provided for the appointment of a commission to determine the just distribution of these revenues among the foreign creditors of Mexico. It was expressly stipulated that no territory should be appropriated by the foreign powers nor should any influence be exerted to interfere with the rights of the Mexican people to arrange their own form of government.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of this procedure on the part of these three European nations was as stated in the preamble of the treaty: to demand more effective protection for the persons and property of their subjects in Mexico and to secure the fulfillment of certain obligations contracted by the Mexican Government. England insisted again and again that she would have nothing to do with the proposed expedition if it were not clearly

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<sup>1</sup>

Arthur H. Noll, From Empire to Republic, p. 231.

laid down in the beginning that the expedition was not to interfere in the internal affairs of Mexico. France and Spain already had plans prepared that were not in harmony with those expressed in the treaty. Both nations were conniving for a means by which a member of the Bourbon family could supplant the Mexican president by one of their own relatives. By this means Spain would be mentally if not financially compensated for the actions of the disloyal subjects of the 1820's. In accordance with the London agreement these countries were to act as receivers of the property of their hopelessly bankrupt debtor and to administer the estate for the liquidation of its debts. Of these debts that of England was the largest and of the longest standing. It was based upon an alleged loan of 3, 200,000 contracted by the agent of the Mexican government with a London Banking house in the first year of the Republic. It amounted at the time of the treaty of London to nearly \$40,000,000 in Mexican money. To Spain Mexico was alleged to owe a little more than \$8,000,000 and to France \$11,500,000 in Mexican money but with tangible evidence for only \$2,800,000.

The Mexican Expedition never obtained the slightest

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degree of popularity in France. It was looked upon with coldness, indifference, and dislike and contempt by the people.

Forty years of almost incessant civil war had brought utter confusion to the finances of Mexico as well as to her social conditions. During the three years then past (1858-60) there had been two opposing governments in the country with which to treat, neither being responsible for the actions and promises of the other.<sup>1</sup> The Treaty of London was doubtless precipitated by the decree of the Mexican government suspending the payment of foreign debts for two years. But, however, according to Professor Gregorio Torres Quintero in his book "La Patria Mexicana" "la suspensión de pagos no fue, pues, más que el pretexto para enviar la expedición de que se hablaba en la convención de Londres." England and France at once broke off diplomatic relations with Mexico until the decree of suspension should be revoked.

An opportunity for pursuing the course now determined upon by France was afforded at the time by the civil war then in progress in the United States. The foreign powers regarded that war between the states as likely to result in the independence of the Confederate states of the South.

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<sup>1</sup>

Ibid., p. 238.

Such an opportunity as this afforded was especially appreciated by Louis Napoleon who had long cherished dreams of establishing a world empire. With the United States likely to be divided and with the Confederate States, when independent as their allies, little fear of any trouble with the Government at Washington over the "Monroe Doctrine" was evidenced. Plans of a formidable design were in the making to accomplish the acquisition of territory by interference in the political affairs of the country, and already negotiations were in progress with certain persons looking to the future disposition of the Mexican state of Sonora and adjacent territory.

Tales maquinaciones hallaron eco en Napoleón III, emperador de los franceses, quien se resolvió a proteger la empresa de destruir el gobierno de Juárez y poner un trono en Méjico echando sus miradas codiciosas sobre la adquisición de Sonora y Baja California. 1

Audiences with this in mind had been extended to General Almonte, General Miramon, José María Gutiérrez de Estrada, Francisco J. Miranda (Padre Miranda, a turbulent Mexican cleric) and other banished reactionary leaders. It was largely upon such testimony furnished by disgruntled subjects and reactionary clerics all of whom were traitors that the idea of European invasion

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Gregorio T. Quintero, La Patria Mexicana, p. 418.

in an alien land 5000 miles away was nurtured. The events leading to the fall of this Empire proved that this undertaking was the Moscow of the Second French Empire of the Napoleons.

Early in December, 1861 the Spanish squadron arrived in advance of the other squadrons at Vera Cruz. A week later the city was occupied by the Spanish troops; this was regarded as not in accord with the agreement and was made the pretext on the part of France for securing reinforcements to the number of 4 or 5,000 men. With the arrival on the 8th of January, 1862 of the French and English forces the whole foreign army was placed under the command of the Spanish Marshal Prim, the commander-in-chief of the Spanish forces. The army then consisted of about 6,000 Spanish soldiers, 2,500 French soldiers and 700 English marines. Juárez immediately undertook measures to protect his country from the invader. He appealed to all Mexicans to forget their private feuds and unite against the common foe. On the 25th of January, 1862, Juárez issued a decree declaring that all men between the ages of sixteen and sixty who refused to take up arms in defence of the country would be regarded as<sup>1</sup> traitors. This decree established court martials in

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<sup>1</sup>Noll, Op. Cit., p. 241.

the place of ordinary tribunals. It gave authority to the governors of states and magistrates of towns to dispose of the persons or property of all disloyal persons within their jurisdiction. Juárez was anxious to postpone as long as possible or to avoid altogether a collision with the foreign troops. He invited the envoys of the allied powers to a conference at Orizaba in April, 1862.<sup>1</sup> At the Orizaba conference Count de Saligny, the French diplomatic agent, declared that the Mexican Government had heaped so many fresh grievances upon the French subjects that he could no longer treat with it and would be content with nothing less than a march upon the capital, Mexico City. Meanwhile French reinforcements had arrived which increased the French army to over 6,500 men. With these reinforcements came also General Almonte, and Padre Miranda, both of whom were odious in the eyes of the Mexicans. Almonte was especially hated by the Mexicans because while living in exile in Paris he had been active in poisoning the mind of the Emperor in regard to their affairs. Under the protection of the French flag these men assumed an arrogant attitude and Almonte went so far as to assume the title of "Provisional President of Mexico."<sup>2</sup> In the attempt

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<sup>1</sup>

Ibid., p. 242.

<sup>2</sup>

Ibid., p. 244.

to adjust the claims of the allied powers at Orizaba the French commissioners demanded on behalf of France a round sum of \$12,000,000 without details or items in addition to the Jecker claim of \$1,500,000. It was shown, however, that all of the proceeds of the Jecker bonds, issued in behalf of the government of Miramon had not been received --the exact sum being \$750,000. Nevertheless Jecker was demanding the face value of his bonds. Juárez offered to assume the \$750,000 with interest at 5% but denounced the idea of being liable for the full sum of \$1,500,000. The English Commissioner, aware of the stifled atmosphere, attempted to show that the demands of the French country if enforced would only lead to war, as no nation on earth would accede to them. It was unquestionable that the French Commanders with this idea in view advanced them. Soon after the true aims of France were discovered the Spanish and English troops were withdrawn from the enterprise. In April, 1862, immediately after the Convention of Orizaba, the French general issued a proclamation declaring a military dictatorship established in Mexico with Almonte as Supreme Chief of the nation.<sup>1</sup> On the same day the French army was reorganized into two divisions and advanced toward the capital; one division by way of

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<sup>1</sup>

Ibid., p. 246.



Jalapa, the other by way of Orizaba. An army of Mexicans under the command of General Márquez (El Tigre de Tacubaya) joined the forces of the interventionists. The peril in which Mexico again found herself had the effect of sifting her military leaders. Zaragoza, Escobedo and Porfirio Díaz remained staunch adherents to the Republican cause; Mejía joined the cause of the interventionists as did Miramón.

This advance by the French army was supposed to be a mere military parade, but there was a surprise in store. Puebla, an ancient city and one that guarded the route to the capital, was found to be occupied by Mexican soldiers who defended it heroically.

Juárez encomendó el mando del ejército republicano al general Don Ignacio Zaragoza, quien con actividad sorprendente, reunió los elementos que pudo y se situó en Puebla con 4,000 hombres a hacer frente al enemigo. Eran sus posesiones los fuertes de Guadalupe y Loreto en dos cerritos que dominan la entrada de la ciudad. Esta batalla, el cinco de mayo, era una victoria por los Republicanos. Esta victoria levantó el espíritu de los mexicanos y los animó en aquella guerra en que peligraban la independencia y la reforma. <sup>1</sup>

The attacking forces of the French numbered more than 7,000 well organized and well disciplined men. Yet,

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<sup>1</sup>

Noll, Op. Cit., p. 425

notwithstanding their disadvantages, the Republican forces on the fifth of May 1862 repulsed the invaders with terrible slaughter and won a glorious victory. This battle encouraged the Republicans and gave to the Mexicans one of her greatest national feast days, El  
cinco de Mayo.<sup>1</sup> Unable to continue their forward march, the French retreated to Orizaba. Invigorated by the high morale of the citizens of Puebla, supplies were furnished the army so that the invaders could be pursued and given a taste of Mexican ferocity. Hence within a short time they were once again defeated at the Cerro del Borrego. Amid these victories the greatest of her commanders, General Zaragoza, died of typhus fever. Truly this was a tragic loss to the Republican cause for he was regarded as the greatest  
<sup>2</sup> military genius the country had ever produced.

Se le hicieron solemnes funerales; el gobierno lo declaró por medio de un decreto: "Benemérito de la Patria en grado heroico," mandando que su nombre se inscribiese con letras de oro en el salon de sesiones del congreso, dotando a la hija con 100,000 pesos y concediendo a la madre una pensión de 3,000 pesos anuales. El General González Ortega fue nombrado para sucederle en el mando del ejército. <sup>3</sup>

In September, 1862 General Forey, commander-in-

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<sup>1</sup>

Noll, Op. Cit., p. 247

<sup>2</sup>

Ibid., p. 248.

<sup>3</sup>

Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 426

chief of the French forces, arrived with sufficient reinforcements to increase the alien contingents to 20,000 men. A few days later he declared himself military dictator of the whole country. Finally Puebla was now captured (May, 1863) but not without desperate fighting.

The fall of Puebla broke the heart of the Mexican resistance and left the city of Mexico exposed to the invaders.<sup>1</sup> On the last day of May, 1863 President Juárez and his ministers left the capital and set up a government at San Luis Potosí. The capitulation came none too soon for eleven days later under the leadership of General Forey the capital was occupied. Thoroughly aware that the main obstacle to success lay in "pacifying" the residents, General Forey with the advice of his subordinates and other interested parties had appointed a supreme governing Junta, consisting of thirty-five members to assist in laying the foundation for the future empire. Out of this junta a regency was created. It consisted of General Mariano Salas, General Almonte, Bishop Plagio Labastida of Puebla and Miramón. Everything was cut and dried as is obvious from the letter of Almonte to Napoleon:

The Assembly of Notables will be summoned in five or six days and Your Majesty will receive by the next Saint-Nazaire boat the news that this body has declared in favor of monarchy and the archduke. 2

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<sup>1</sup>

Noll, Op. Cit., p. 249.

<sup>2</sup>

Calcott, Liberalism in Mexico, p. 46.

The Assembly of Notables when assembled consisted of 231 members, representing the twenty-four states of Mexico without regard to the population of the states. Most of these men composing this assembly were reactionaries and in sympathy with the monarchy.

Esta Junta aprobó por aclamación las siguientes gravísimas resoluciones:

1. La nación mexicana adopta por forma de gobierno la monarquía moderada hereditaria, con un príncipe católico,
2. El soberano tomará el título de Emperador de México.
3. La corona imperial de México se ofrece al príncipe Fernando Maximiliano, archduque de Austria, para sí y sus descendientes.
4. En el caso de que, por circunstancias imposibles de prever, el archiduque Fernando Maximiliano no llegase a tomar posesión del trono que se le ofrece, la nación mexicana se remite a la benevolencia de S. M. Napoleon III, emperador de los franceses para que le indique otro príncipe católico. 1

Esto último revela claramente que los monarquistas entregaron los destinos de México en manos del emperador de los franceses; un pueblo en esas condiciones no es independiente. Luego los conservadores cometían una traición a la Patria. Los Notables nombraron una comisión para que fuese a ofrecer el trono de México. El Archduque la recibió en Miramar. Gutiérrez Estrada hizo el ofrecimiento. 2

Before the end of 1863 Forey and Saligny were recalled. Forey was succeeded by Marshal Bazaine. By August, 1863 the Interventionists had control of the

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Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 430.

2

Ibid., p. 432.

country as far as Guadalajara in the northwest, Queretaro in the north, and Vera Cruz in the east. As yet the extreme northwest and southern states, twelve in number, were not occupied by the French even though they had delegates (pliant ones of course) in the Assembly of Notables.

Meanwhile the Republican forces were scattered but not exterminated. There were bands of patriots in Michoacán, Jalisco, Sinaloa, Sonora, in the mountains of Puebla and Oaxaca, and in the south. The advance of the French army toward San Luis Potosí caused the Republican capital to be moved to Taltillo in November, 1863. Shortly after Juárez moved the seat of government to Monterrey, where it was maintained from April to August, 1864.

Meanwhile the Mexican Committee had been promised by Maximilian that he would accept the throne of Mexico provided the people of Mexico would express their wish that he should reign over them by suffrage of some kind certified in such a way that he could determine the number of voters in favor of the Empire and the ratio of this number to the population of the country. By means of a fake held by the French, Maximilian was persuaded against his will to accept the title "Emperor of Mexico." The vote gave evidence that out of 6,445, 564 out of Mexico's 8,620,982 people wanted him.<sup>1</sup> Certificates of election in favor of Maximilian were produced from "all places

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<sup>1</sup>Ernest Gruening, Mexico and Its Heritage, p. 208

occupied by the French bayonets."<sup>1</sup>

The acceptance of the throne of Mexico by Maximilian was not looked upon with favor by the Austrians. It was deemed especially unwise that an Austrian prince would accept any crown from the hands of a Napoleon. After the acceptance of the throne of Mexico by Maximilian it was openly declared in Vienna that "Mexico and its Emperor were strangers to Austria and her interests."<sup>2</sup>

The poetic charm and romantic character of ruling the supposed ancient Empire of the Aztecs, in all probability was the strongest of the motives actuating Maximilian in the matter. He possessed the character and the mind of one who would be dazzled by the romantic traditions regarding Mexico.

Ferdinand Maximilian was at this time thirty-two years of age. He had been trained for the navy. In 1855 he was appointed Commander-in-chief of the Austrian navy and is credited with the reorganization of the navy and its elevation to respectable place among the navies of Europe. In 1857 he married Princess Carlota of Belgium. He was appointed military and

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<sup>1</sup> Noll, Op. Cit., p. 253.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 254.

civil governor of Lombardy-Venetia where he proved to be a liberal-minded and public-spirited ruler. He was charming in his manner, spotless in personal character, but lacking in public sagacity. He was tall and slender with blonde hair and beard both worn long and parted in the middle. His eyes were blue.<sup>1</sup>

On the 8th of April 1864 Maximilian signed at Vienna the "Family Compact," whereby he renounced all rights which he might have in the succession to the Austrian throne and dedicated himself entirely to the Mexican enterprise.<sup>2</sup> Two days later at a high function in the palace of Miramar the Committee of the Mexican Assembly of Notables again tendered him the Imperial crown of Mexico, and he replied that he believed that there was not the slightest doubt that an immense majority of the Mexican people were in favor of the Imperial form of government. Before a priest present Maximilian took an oath that he would "by every means in his power procure the well being and prosperity of the Mexican nation, defend its independence and preserve the integrity of its territory." The Mexican flag was unfurled on the tower of Miramar; salutes were fired by the vessels in the harbor of

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<sup>1</sup>  
Ibid., p. 255.

<sup>2</sup>  
Ibid., p. 256.

Trieste and everywhere in the palace there prevailed the greatest enthusiasm.

The same day, the eighth of April, 1864, the Treaty of Miramar was executed. This was an agreement between Maximilian and Napoleon by which Maximilian was to pay the Jecker claims, the sum of \$54,000,000 for the support of the army and all the expenses of the Intervention, making a total sum of \$173,000,000 of public debt with which to begin his career as Emperor of Mexico.<sup>1</sup> The Treaty stipulated that from year to year the force of 38,000 men should be withdrawn as rapidly as Mexican troops could be organized to replace them, but that 8,000 men of the French army should remain in Mexico for six years. The French troops were to be in complete accord<sup>2</sup> with the Mexican Emperor.

El Tratado de Miramar no fue presentado al Senado francés; no recibió la sanción de Francia legal ni de ninguna clase; fue un compromiso personal.<sup>3</sup>

On April 12, 1864 the Emperor and Empress were on their way to the New World. The city of Rome was visited on the way and the young Imperial couple had a conference with the Pope which is still shrouded in deepest mystery. The Imperial party arrived in Vera

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<sup>1</sup>

Ibid., p. 257.

<sup>2</sup>

Ibid., p. 258.

<sup>3</sup>

Francisco Bulnes, El Verdadero Juarez y La Verdad Sobre La Intervencion y El Imperio, p. 705.



Cruz, the 29th of May 1864. The sovereigns were received by General Almonte as President of the Regency.

Fue tan frío el recibimiento que se les hizo que la emperatriz se afectó hasta el punto de llorar. Cuando Maximiliano y Carlota llegó en la capital todo el mundo esperaba que el emperador daría a conocer sus brillantes dotes de gobierno, resolviendo o poniéndose a resolver los grandes problemas de la situación y a organizar su imperio. Nada de eso, otros asuntos muy secundarios le preocupaban, como nombrar chambelanes, damas de honor, gran maestro de ceremonias; crear una guardia palatina, formado de alabarderos, escogidos entre los hombres mas hermosos; imprimir el código de etiqueta de la corte, y corregir él mismo las pruebas. Su viaje de Miramón a Mexico había costado medio millón de pesos, que pagó la nación. El mismo se señaló un sueldo de un millón y medio de pesos al año, y asignó a la emperatriz para sus gastos particulares la cantidad de 200,000 pesos anuales. Los presidentes de la República gozaban 36,000 pesos de sueldo anual, y se comprendera lo caro que era tener un emperador.

In the middle of April, 1864 Juárez was forced to leave Monterrey and move his government to Chihuahua, where he was able to maintain his government until the following August 1865. Then he was forced to move his capital to Paso del Norte now Ciudad Juárez. The term for which, under the constitution, Juárez had been elected president had expired while he was a fugitive from his capital. There was a man, General Jesús González Ortega, who had been president of the Supreme Court of Justice. He took advantage of the fact that the term of Juárez had expired

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<sup>1</sup>Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 436.

and asserted that, according to the Constitution, he was now president of Mexico. Juárez maintained that his term of office legally continued until in time of peace constitutional elections could take place and his successor could be elected.

Throughout the period of the Empire Maximilian tried to "regenerate Mexico." His efforts to placate the Liberals while failing of their direct support, alienated the members of his own party. The difficulties of the situation were enhanced by the fickleness of the Mexican character; Maximilian found that the many who had deserted Juárez for what was then apparently the more popular cause were equally ready to desert the Imperialists when the occasion offered. The Emperor came into collision with the Clerical party. The earliest demand of the clerical party was that the property taken from the Church by the decree of sequestration should be restored. The clericals seemed about to achieve their purpose of reestablishing the full powers of the church. The papal nuncio Mgr. Meglia who arrived toward the end of 1864 carried the instructions: "To restore the happy days of the church, to provide above all else that the Catholic religion with the exclusion of all other cults continue to be the glory and support of

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the Mexican nation, that all the religious orders be reestablished, and that finally the chains which have until now, held the church dependent upon and under the despotism of the civil government, be broken." Even Maximilian, most Catholic prince that he was reared in a religious and royalist tradition, was stupefied at this attempt to turn back the hands of time. Maximilian could not see the wisdom of restoring the vast estates which had passed into the hands of others. "His Holiness" Monsignor Neglia notified Maximilian "could scarcely suppose that the imperial government would propose and consummate the work begun by Juárez."<sup>1</sup> So violent became the clerical intrigues and protests that the Emperor felt obliged to utter the following rebuke:

You say that the Mexican church has never taken part in politics. Would to God it were true, but unfortunately we have unimpeachable witnesses and in great numbers who can testify to the sad but evident truth that the very dignitaries of the church have thrown themselves into revolutions. Admit, my worthy bishops, that the Mexican Church has with a lamentable fatality mixed up in politics and in matters of earthly wealth forgetting thereby and neglecting the true maxims of God. He ended the rebuke with the statement: "But good Catholic that I am I shall likewise be a liberal and just prince."<sup>2</sup>

The break between the ruler and those who had called him into power was complete. Maximilian not only allowed the

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<sup>1</sup> Ernest Gruening, Mexico and Its Heritage, p. 208.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 209.

"Reform Laws" of Juárez to remain in force, but added other liberal measures.

Pronto iba Maximiliano a desarrollar las ideas reformistas en contraposición a lo que esperaban los conservadores. El emperador, o el empeorador, como maliciosamente lo llamaba el pueblo, dispuso que se dictasen las siguientes medidas:

1. Ratificar la ley de nacionalización de bienes eclesiásticos y garantizar los intereses legítimos creados en virtud de esa ley.
2. Adoptar los principios más amplios y liberales respecto a la tolerancia de cultos.
3. Secularizar los cementerios
4. Poner a sueldo del gobierno a los obispos y sacerdotes.
5. Hacer gratuita la administración de los sacramentos.
6. Que todos los oficios de Roma pasasen por el gobierno.

Estas disposiciones fueron causa del rompimiento entre el Imperio y el mismo partido que negoció su establecimiento en México. <sup>1</sup>

The final downfall of the Empire may be directly traced to the action of the government at Washington.<sup>2</sup> The clouds of Civil War hanging so heavily over the United States when the Treaty of London was signed had furnished Napoleon III with the opportunity to carry out his schemes. He looked for the dismemberment of the United States and the permanent establishment of the Southern Confederacy. Throughout this period the United States remained firm in its early recognition of the Juárez government. In fact in July 1862 it had been

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<sup>1</sup> Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 437.

<sup>2</sup> Noll, Op. Cit., p. 263.

proposed by the United States government to loan Mexico sufficient funds for the payment of all her foreign debts, which amounted to some \$72,000,000 and to take as a pledge for the repayment thereof in five years, the provinces of Lower California and Sonora. But Juárez felt compelled to decline the offer, because maintenance of the integrity of Mexican territory was one of the political principles which he had adopted. That Juárez was ready and even anxious to use United States troops was generally well known. President Johnson had granted an interview to the representative of the constitutionalists and so had given direct encouragement to the cause while tentative offers were made to secure some well known military leaders to aid the constitutionalists. In all probability the further fact was known to both parties that the House of Representatives of the United States Congress on April 4, 1864 had passed a resolution without dissent condemning the Mexican<sup>1</sup> expedition.

Sheridan's troops were ordered to the Mexican border May 17, 1865 with the statement: "If war is to be made they will be in the right place." Sheridan states that he himself visited Brownsville to "impress the Imperialists as much as possible with the idea that we meant hostilities"

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<sup>1</sup>

J. B. Moore, Digest on International Law, VI, p. 496.

while General Stelle was ordered to make demonstrations "all along the lower Rio Grande." Ammunition and arms were left at convenient places so that they would fall into the hands of the liberals. Efforts were made to unite the disorganized constitutional faction. During the winter and spring indirect aid was given the Juaristas "as many as 30,000 muskets from Baton Rouge Arsenal alone" <sup>1</sup> being sent to them. Throughout this period the United States government recognized the Juárez government although it seemed that the Empire was triumphant and the restoration of the Republic well nigh hopeless. During this period the United States government made many protests concerning the French occupation of Mexico, but all were unheeded by France as long as the war continued in the United States. But before the summer of 1865 the Civil War had ended and without any dismemberment of the United States as Napoleon had expected. The Mexican Empire was thus left without any prospect of an ally in North America. The United States government was now able to turn its attention to the Mexican episode. It declared in the most emphatic terms that France had

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<sup>1</sup>P. H. Sheridan, Memoirs, II, p. 209.

trespassed upon the rights which the United States claimed as set forth in the "Monroe Doctrine" by attempting European colonization in some of the Mexican states and supporting and maintaining an Empire on the American continent. It demanded that French troops be withdrawn from Mexico without delay and that all attempts at colonization cease.

Los Estados Unidos estaban obligados por su historia, por sus intereses, por su presente, por su provenir, por su orgullo y su ambición para ser propia causa de exigir a Napoleón la desocupación de México. La presión irresistible e insolente de Mr. Seward para hacer salir a los franceses de México no fue en servicio de los mexicanos sino un acto urgente fisiológico del pueblo americano que completaban la reconstitución de su poder, de su prestigio, de su dignidad. <sup>1</sup>

Napoleon, now finding public opinion in France strongly opposed to his projects and their continuance, yielded to the situation. He agreed to withdraw his troops from Mexico within a specified time and to abstain from further interference in Mexican affairs. The triumph of the Monroe Doctrine was complete.

"La verdadera razón del descontento de los Estados Unidos consiste en que el ejército francés, al invadir a México, ataca a un Gobierno republicano, profundamente simpático a los Estados Unidos, y elegido por la nación, para reemplazarlo por una monarquía que, mientras exista, será considerada como una amenaza hacia nuestras instituciones republicanas. Tan injusto como imprudente sería, por parte de los Estados Unidos, tratar de destruir los gobiernos

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<sup>1</sup>

Bulnes, Op. Cit., p. 831.



monárquicos de Europa para reemplazarlos por Repúblicas, como nos parece injusto que los gobiernos europeos vengan a América para reemplazar el régimen republicano con monarquías o imperios." <sup>1</sup>

The above note was sent to Napoleon by Secretary of State Seward and was to a great extent responsible for the withdrawal of the French troops.

Meanwhile Maximilian had sealed his fate. He issued the famous Decree of October 3, 1865.<sup>2</sup> The decree was based upon information that President Juárez had abandoned the Mexican territory, crossed the northern frontier, and gone to Santa Fe, New Mexico. It declared that the cause sustained by Juárez with so much valor had at last succumbed. "Henceforth the struggle will no longer be between opposing systems of government, but between the Empire established by the will of the people and the criminals and bandits which infest the country." It therefore declared that all persons carrying arms against the Empire as well as all persons aiding them by selling arms and supplies were to be tried by courts martial and condemned to death. Punishments of fines and imprisonment were prescribed for all who had in any other way opposed the Empire.

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<sup>1</sup> Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 448.



Unfortunately this decree was enforced and in such a manner as to be suicidal to the Imperial government. Many officers in the Republican army of excellent reputation and of high standing were executed. As a result of this decree many who had been favorably disposed to the Empire were now lukewarm or turned against it entirely.

The work of withdrawing the French troops from the interior and concentrating them upon the capital was accomplished by Bazaine. Toward the close of January, 1867 the foreign army began to retire and extended like a "girdle of steel along the sandy road from the city of Mexico to Vera Cruz."

La retirada de las tropas francesas, que no debería verificarse hasta fines de 1868, según los contratos firmados por Napoleón y Maximiliano, se adelantó, en dos años, a causa de la actitud de los Estados Unidos, por una parte, y con mayor razón por la guerra entre Francia y Prusia, que se anunciaba, lo cual requería la reunión de todo el ejército francés, y con eso se vino a agravar la situación del Imperio. <sup>1</sup>

Bazaine used his influence to persuade Maximilian to return with the French army to France. He urged this course in personal interviews and in many letters and the last act of Bazaine before sailing from Vera Cruz

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<sup>1</sup>

Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 447.

in March 1867 was to write to Maximilian offering him a final opportunity to escape in the vessels provided for the transportation of the French army. The perplexed and irresolute Emperor was induced by new promises of aid from the Mexican church and by the self-seeking councils of Miramón and Márquez to remain in his quaking Empire. Even his mother wrote to him urging him to stay rather than compromise his honor. Between hopes and fears,<sup>1</sup> weak and selfish counsels he hesitated and was lost.

The following is a remarkable statement made by the French Commander Bazaine before he left for France: "One cannot hide to oneself that the energy and intelligence are on the side of the liberals."

El desaliento se apoderó de los imperialistas y del mismo archiduque, que pensó abdicar y retirarse a Europa; pero Carlota contrarió tal resolución, y propuso ir a París, y Roma, para arreglar con Napoleon la permanencia de las tropas, y con el Papa la cuestión eclesiástica. La Emperatriz salió de México. Fue entonces cuando se compuso la canción que se hizo tan popular, y que en el estribillo decía: "Adiós, mamá Carlota; adiós, mi tierno amor!"<sup>2</sup>

As the French troops withdrew from the towns of northern Mexico the Republicans of the northern states reunited and occupied them. In January 1867 Juárez transferred his government to Zacatecas. Upon the

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<sup>1</sup> Herbert I. Priestly, The Mexican Nation, A History, p. 359.

<sup>2</sup> Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 449.

advance of the Republican armies it was decided to transfer the Imperial seat of government to Queretaro. Maximilian had about 9,000 soldiers. He now realized that he was opposed not by a demoralized band bent on pillage as he had been led to believe, but as he expressed it in a letter to one of his ministers: "by a homogeneous army whose stimulus is the courage and perseverance of a chief moved by a great idea, that of defending the national independence." Now surrounded by the last of the imperial generals his fate was in the hands of such indifferent strategists as Miramón, Márquez, Méndez, and Mejía who constituted with Maximilian "the five tragic M's."<sup>1</sup> In November 1866 Escobedo, a Republican general, with a force of 15,000 men was ordered to advance to Queretaro. From the 12th of March to the 15th of May the Republican forces held the city in a state of siege. The victory of the Republicans was partly caused by the treason or betrayal of Colonel Miguel López, a favorite member of the Emperor's staff. He gave information to the Republicans which enabled a small detachment of the Republican army to enter the city at day-break on the 15th of May.<sup>2</sup> Maximilian was begged to try to escape but refused and surrendered his sword to Escobedo on the

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<sup>1</sup> Priestly, Op. Cit., p. 360.

<sup>2</sup> Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 278.

Cerro de las Campanas.

Maximiliano bajó del Cerro de las Campanas, adonde se había retirado a la hora del combate, y entregó su espada, diciendo: "Los jefes que me acompañan no tienen más responsabilidad que la que les impone haber seguido mi suerte. Deseo que no reciban daño alguno. Si se necesita una víctima, aquí estoy yo. Espero que mi sangre sea la última que se derrame en bien de este país." Fue llevado luego ante Escobedo, y a éste dijo desciñéndose y entregándole la espada: "Ya soy prisionero de usted." <sup>1</sup>

In the Teatro de Iturbide was the scene of the remarkable court martial. Maximilian, Miguel Miramón and Tomás Mejía were charged with filibustering, treason and putting forth the Decree of October 3, 1865. The conduct of Maximilian throughout these scenes was heroic. He had been a weak ruler, the cupe of more than one unprincipled person and the tool of those who were seeking to overthrow constitutional government in Mexico. But he was a brave and noble prince. Too ill to be present at the trial he placed his defense in the hands of Mariano Riva Palacio (the noted Republican who had declined a place in his council) and gave his attention to the arrangements of his worldly affairs in the prospect of death. Señor Riva Palacio with the assistance of other distinguished lawyers <sup>2</sup> did all in his power to save his unfortunate client. But it was hopeless. The court martial brought in a verdict of guilty and imposed the death penalty. This decision

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<sup>1</sup> Quintero, Op. Cit., p. 458.

<sup>2</sup> Noll, Op. Cit., p. 279.

was reached June 15 and his execution was ordered the next day but on a telegram from Juárez a postponement of three days until the 19th was given. Juárez replied to those who begged for the life of the Emperor: "If all the kings and queens of Europe were prostrate before me, I could not save the life for which you plead; I do not take it; it is the law; the people take it, not I."

On the morning of the 19th of June at 7:00 the stern sentence of the court martial was executed upon Maximilian, Miramón and Mejía upon the Cerro de las Campanas where they had surrendered. The Republic of Mexico was triumphant.

Juárez by his actions in allowing the execution of Maximilian had taught the lesson that such would be the fate of foreign princes who would lend themselves as tools to the schemers against constitutional government in Mexico. It was a disagreeable lesson which the New World had to teach the old, and we may pity rather<sup>1</sup> than blame the master who had the courage to teach it.

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Noll, Op. Cit., p. 282.

## EL CERRO DE LAS CAMPANAS

The afternoon of the thirty-first of May 1863 the army of the Republic abandoned the Capital. At 4:00 in the afternoon of this memorable day the President Juárez and his ministers left for the interior of the country. The army's departure was a military movement--not a flight. The most horrible consternation took possession of the Capital. The people abandoned in mass their homes. Business was closed. La capital estaba perdida!

Among the families that have not sympathized with the Republic is the family of Don Modesto Fajardo. Fajardo is a man of little ability who prides himself on being chief of the conservative party. He devoted himself to the illusions of the Intervention believing he can recover one of the first positions on the coming of the French. The wife of Don Modesto is Doña Canuta. The two possessed an immense fortune. The only child of the Fajardos was a beautiful and delicate daughter called Luz. This daughter had met a colonel in the Republican Army in a theatre and had fallen in love with him. His name was Eduardo Fernandez. Luz felt in her soul the first rays of incipient love. Eduardo felt for the first time the powerful attraction of a woman. He loved Luz with delirium and his love was returned.

Upon the capture of Zaragoza by the French troops the good news of this event was celebrated by the Fajardos with a reception. Luz pretended to be ill and remained in her room. Luz had a friend, who was beautiful and attractive, called Clara. She was the confident of the two lovers. During the tertulia Clara was with Luz in one of the back rooms of the house. It was arranged that Eduardo was to come to see Luz before he took leave of the capital with the Republican forces. Eduardo arrived. Poor Luz! She was pale and sad as an angel of pain. Tears began to flow from her eyes. Eduardo caressed her and swore a thousand times that he would not forget her. He tells her: "It is necessary to leave. I am a son of the revolution and the hour has sounded. My heart is yours. Your image lives in my thoughts." Luz gives the young colonel a reliquary which encloses her picture and a strand of her hair as a symbol of her affection, telling him that her soul accompanies him everywhere. She tells him she will pray to the virgin for his safety. Eduardo leaves and Luz faints in the arms of her friend.

The right-hand man of Colonel Fernandez is Pablo Martinez. This Republican officer was born in the state of Michoacán. His father was a laborer. There were two children in the house, a sister, Guadalupe

and Martinez. One day the mother of Pablo mysteriously disappears. His father is accused of the crime of assassinating her and is sentenced to ten years imprisonment. A good woman, a neighbor of the family, takes the two children and keeps them for six years. The last time that Martinez saw this woman was in the cemetery where he paid with tears his debt of gratitude. On telling this story of his life to his companions, he concluded: "We are three abandoned people--an old man, my father in jail, an abandoned child, and a young man in the Revolution. God grant that all three of us be united again."

The army of the Republic suffered much in its fight against the invaders. The soldiers of the Republic were ill-clothed, hungry, and frequently the soldier was followed by his unfortunate family, the woman carrying the gun and the soldier the unhappy child. The army sleeps at the side of the road near a fire which at times is extinguished by the rain. The fire of the sun and the ice of the winter dishearten them. Thus they pass their existence until a bullet comes to place an end of their suffering. These soldiers fight as lions in the combat. Poor Martinez, faithful as a dog, was resigned to work. He carried a profound weight in his breast. This sister, Guadalupe that he loved so much was the focus of his hopes.



One division of the army was marching to Toluca, a beautiful city, capital of the state of Mejico. In the plaza of this city there stands a magnificent statue of Father Hidalgo, the father of Mexican independence, with the banner of the Virgin Guadalupe in his hands. Hidalgo is the greatest apostle of liberty in Mexican history.

Meanwhile in the Fajardo home, Luz had only one image in her heart; that image was Eduardo. A mortal paleness bathed her forehead; her eyes shone intensely with tears and her lips showed the fever of weeping. This unhappy creature was mortally affected. She supports her head with a hand of marble which lost itself among the golden curls of her head. She had in the other hand a reliquary where she looked at the picture of Eduardo. She hid her head among the pillows, crying as a turtle dove in its abandoned nest. Clara entered the Fajardo house. She entered the room of Luz and caressed her. Luz tells her friend that today she has read all the letters that Eduardo has written her--letters of two years of affection. She tells Clara that her parents are happy and that she fears that they are planning that she should take part in the reception planned for the French army.

Don Serafin, a dandy, is suing for the hand of Luz. Luz reveals to Clara that she hates him and will die before marrying him. At this point of the conversation

Don Serafin enters the room. He is supporting the French. A part of his conversation follows: "La Europa nos apoya-- toda la Europa. General Forey is at the gates of the capital. Tomorrow he will make a solemn entrance and will lodge himself at the palace of Moctezuma." Don Serafin explains to the two girls, who are both in sympathy with the Republicans, that: "It is a big job to extirpate all the liberals." Clara explains to Don Serafin that she hates the French and especially does she hate those Mexicans who are supporting the French. "I was born in Mexico, and a Mexican I am." Don Serafin finally leaves, and Doña Canuta enters displaying a new gown she is to wear to the ball welcoming the French. A messenger from Colonel Fernandez to Luz was discovered by Dona Canuta as she left the room. He is given two hundred blows and the letters of Eduardo fail to reach Luz.

Meanwhile back in the division of the Republican army in Toluca, Eduardo was wondering: What could have happened to Luz? The Revolution was in its initial stage. The future was obscure. The time of the French occupation was still undetermined. Who would be able to guarantee the life of Eduardo in this series of combats they were preparing? Eduardo before leaving his sweetheart had promised to write to her continually. He had sent a letter to her from Toluca by his assistant, Estanislao Luna. A few days after Dona

Canuta had discovered this messenger, Eduardo read the following account of the incident in a newspaper: "Ayer la policia ha aprehendido a un correo del enemigo llamado Estanislao Luna, el cual ha sufrido la pena de doscientos azotes a que lo condenó la autoridad francesa."

Luz was sad because of the fate of the servant of Eduardo. When Don Serafin presses his suit Luz tells him that she will be his good friend, but nothing more.

The tenth of June of 1863 was the day set for the entrance of the French conquerors. Doña Canuta and her husband await the arrival of the French troops on their balcony which overlooks the street. Doña Canuta exclaims to her husband: "Fajardo, our dreams are realized; that which we believed so difficult was very simple." Don Modesto replies: "Para ésta Bonaparte no hay un Wellington; por el contrario este César dará mil Waterloos a la Europa." At the head of the French army marched the commander of the expedition, General Forey, a man of more than seventy years. He conserves the robustness of his constitution. His physical appearance is little French. He appears more to be Irish. To his right came the General Almonte and to his left the celebrated señor de Saligny. These three men enter the National Cathedral. Never were religious prayers said with more indifference. El Tedeum había terminado. Before

leaving the men kneeled again and surrendered their arms before the God of arms. Three years later (Juan A. Mateos comments sarcastically): "In their shameful retreat they did not even say good-bye to the God of arms that they saluted upon occupying the Capital of the Republic." After leaving the National Cathedral they entered the National Palace. During all the above proceedings the bells of the city were ringing.

Señor Fajardo offers hospitality to some of the French officers in his home. There comes to the house of the Fajardos a French soldier called Poleón. He is disagreeable in his attitude and takes possession of the entire house. Upon entering the house he exclaims: "I have been in this cursed country a year, and I have not found a person with whom to talk." He flings everything from his suitcase looking for his tobacco. It is finally found wrapped up in a newspaper. Doña Canuta sees what is happening and exclaims: "¿Qué es esto?" "My clothing. Don't bother with looking for another room. I will install myself in this living room. I will sleep on the settee and this soldier in the chairs. We will write on the piano and I will make my toilette on the console." He insists that room be made for his horses in the stable. Doña Canuta tries to explain that it would not be possible for the two to sleep in the living room, and that she would provide

good bedrooms for them. To this Poleón replies: "With your permission I take possession of the rooms that please me. I come in the name of France." The two Frenchmen go away temporarily but come back shortly in search of a box of matches which Poleón accuses Don Modesto of stealing. In his search for the matches he smashes the furniture right and left. During the procedure he takes his handkerchief from his pocket to wipe the perspiration and the matches fall from it. This is a typical example of the activities of the French army in Mexico. "Ésta es la justicia francesa en México."

Clara, the friend of Luz, lived on San Cosme. Her father, Don Alberto Rodriguez, was a rich Spanish merchant. As a young man he had married a Mexican senorita who had died upon the birth of Clara. Clara passed her time in her carriage visiting her friends, especially Luz. She was a young girl of society. She played the piano admirably. Clara had black eyes, a small mouth and black hair. Clara usually had a smile on her lips, a smile that could be changed easily into disdain or irony with the greatest facility.

Luz and Eduardo had arranged to have a meeting at the home of Clara some few months after the French arrival at the Capital. Luz arrives at the house of Clara. She is very happy. She tells Clara: "This man is my dream,

my life, my thought." Clara replies to her friend that she has seen a man with whom she too has fallen in love. This man is a Frenchman. Luz tells her friend that this friendship would be ignomy and shame and that her father would die and that she could never be her friend. Luz and Clara await the arrival of Eduardo. The father of Clara, Don Alberto, arrives. Luz kisses him; she has loved him from her most tender age.

Eduardo enters the garden where Luz is awaiting him at 8:00 by the clock of San Cosme. Eduardo tells Luz that the French are separating him from everything he holds near and dear to his heart--from his mother who is on the verge of death and from the woman he loves. He swears to avenge his enemies, the French. Eduardo leaves; he escapes from the city safely.

Twenty days after the occupation of Mexico the official French gave a ball to conservative society. Luz had consented to go to the ball because of the threats and pleadings of her parents. Clara goes with her. It is discovered by the two girls that the man with whom Clara has fallen in love is Luis Demuriez. He and his companion, Captain Alfredo Hugues, are lodgers in the home of Luz. Dona Canuta and her husband dress as aristocrats of 1830. Captain Hugues gives much attention to Luz at the ball. This pleases the Fajardos immensely. Luz refuses to

dance. Captain Hugues would not leave her side for a moment. Finally Don Serafin finds Luz, and the young girl takes advantage of getting away from the captain and accompanies Don Serafin. He takes Clara and Luz to the refreshment table. Doña Canuta is asked to dance by Poleón. She is half dead after the dance. Don Modesto fears for the life of his wife, but Doña Canuta is revenged when her long and prominent nose collides with the eye of Poleón. This incident causes the entire crowd to laugh. Clara and Luz cover their faces with their fans. The family leaves. Don Serafin accompanies the two girls to their carriage and when he is about to enter his own carriage, Captain Hugues challenges him to a duel which he accepts. In the duel Serafin kills Captain Hugues.

On July 8, 1863 the Junta de Notables met in order to form a government for the country. El señor de Fajardo belonged to the Assembly. They established a throne. When Don Modesto goes home, his daughter Luz asks what has happened to their guest, Captain Hugues. Don Modesto replies that he had been killed in a duel the night of the ball. Don Serafin enters the house and upon being asked he explains the duel. He asks Señor Demuriez who had acted as a second for Captain Hugues to tell the Fajardos that the duel was honorable and forced upon him. The two Fajardos call Don Serafin an assassin, but Luz tells him that she

admires him for risking his life. Don Serafin leaves never to enter the Fajardo house again.

Doña Canuta proposes to Luz an excellent young French officer whom she thinks she ought to marry. Luz replies to her parents that she will never accept for a husband a Frenchman or an imperialist. Luz salio de la sala desesperada de no hallar en sus padres un solo atoma de sentido comun.

On July 11, 1863 there was proclaimed in Mexico the Second Empire. The Assembly of Notables issued a proclamation containing the following points:

1. The Mexican nation adopts for the form of government the monarchy, which is to be hereditary with a Catholic prince.
2. The Sovereign will take the name of Emperor of Mexico.
3. The Imperial Crown is offered to His Majesty, the Prince Fernando Maximiliano, archduke of Austria, for himself and his descendants.
4. In case that Fernando Maximiliano will not be able to take possession of the throne that is offered him, the Mexican nation asks the French Emperor to designate another Catholic prince.

On this same day, July 11, 1863, a salute with cannon announced to the capital the beginning of the monarchy. The Assembly appointed a regency to act until Maximiliano arrived in Mexico. The clergy began to prepare for the



anointing of the Emperor. The sky had clouded; that profanation awoke its anger.

The conservative people in Mexico sympathized with the Confederate government established in the United States. They believed that the United States would disappear in the abolitionist catastrophe. They realized that the South would recognize a Mexican Empire while the North would not do so. The Mexican Conservatives actually thought of an invasion to North America.

On the third of October, 1863 the Mexican commission that had come from Mexico to offer to Maximiliano the throne of Mexico arrived at the palace of Miramar. Maximiliano was a young man of thirty-three years of age with reddish hair and clear blue eyes. Maximiliano received the delegation. His answer to them was this: "I will take the throne provided the will of all the Mexican nation wants me." Maximiliano presented his wife Carlota, the daughter of the King of Belgium, to the commission. Carlota was tall, well-shapen and majestic. She had blue eyes and red lips. Her teeth were like marble. The daughter of King Leopold was all intelligence. She had been educated with careful attention. She was gallant in her dress and delicate in her expressions. She knew the refined language of the courts. Carlota tells the Commission that their work will stand "as one of the most distinguished deeds of the age."

The Mexican Commission has dinner with the Archduke. While the meal was being served there were played in an adjoining room selections from the best operas. One of the members of the Commission after leaving the Castle remarked to the other members: "The admirable Carlota surely is the custodian angel of our emperor. She is truly modest and beautiful. Already she reigns before being a queen."

The next day Maximiliano enters the drawing room of the palace where there hang pictures of the members of the House of Hapsburg. Maximiliano approached the likeness of Joseph II and said: "You are going to feel humiliated with my exaltation to the throne of Mexico." Maximiliano reviews the history of his family. He approaches the picture of Maria Antonieta exclaiming: "La guillotina! La revolución!"

That same afternoon Maximiliano gave an audience to an envoy from Mexico who was secretary of justice in the government of Juárez. This man was a man of distinguished appearance. He tells Maximiliano that he knows that a Commission has offered him the throne of Mexico. He tells him that Europe had made a combination that is called the Convent of London, which is none other than a program of conquest. He tells him that "the Intervention has triumphed; the Republic has fought until burning their last cartridge. Today the Republican government takes refuge in the mountains and it will not abandon the earth until leaving in it the

last drop of its blood. The triumph of the Intervention is a yoke of arms." Maximilian shows him a document which the assembly of notables has signed asking him to accept the throne. The envoy replies that this document is the will of France signed by a group of Mexicans that do not represent the national will. He tells Maximilian that a generation has grown up in the Republic--a generation that does not believe in the monarchy as an institution. "The example of Iturbide shows how our country admires the dynasties. The horrors committed by the French army on the march from Vera Cruz to Mexico City cause the people to curse the Intervention and the Empire." Then, too, continues the envoy, the United States will never consent to the establishment of a throne, and the power of this nation will be able to oppose entire Europe. "If you accept the throne you would be one of so many victims sacrificed to the fatalism of the revolution." This patriot that went to Maximilian to warn him not to accept the throne of Mexico died far from his country without seeing it again, nor knowing the outcome of the fight. His name was Don Jose de Jesus Teran.

After the envoy leaves, Maximilian and Carlota discuss the situation. Maximilian tells Carlota that the Emperor, Joseph II, has reduced him to this state--condemned him to live in this corner of Europe. "My presence even disturbs him." Carlota believes that between this present humilia-

tion and the revolutionary events in America it is not necessary to hesitate. She says that she will pawn her jewels for the enterprise. "We will fight with our destiny." Carlota throughout the proceedings urges Maximilian to accept the throne. She tells him in forceful language that the scaffold of an emperor would be worth more than the obscure life of the brother of Joseph II. Carlota tells Maximilian: "I will always be your friend, your companion, your wife."

In a tertulia in the Capital given by the regency, Demuriez expresses his love for Clara. Clara tells him that she loves him. Demuriez tells Clara that he knows that she feels repugnance toward him because he carries the sword of the invader. Clara replies that she does. Demuriez tells her that he believes that the Republicans will be successful "because what do the states matter, if in each cabana we have an enemy."

Meanwhile in the state of Michoacan the Republican troops are victorious. Martinez goes to the Casa de los Duendes with his companion, Quinones. A phantom appears to him and tells him that he alone will be able to wreak vengeance upon the person responsible for the disappearance of his mother. The phantom carried Pablo to an underground chamber where the mother of Pablo had been buried nine years. This infamous one had accomplices. Twins were

the fruit of this sacrilegious union--of that horrible adultery. This man had followed a terrible life of crime. Those two children were thought to have disappeared, and he believes that they have died. He fears that by their presence his crime will be discovered. Pablo and the phantom enter a room. Toward the back of the room was a chained woman who slept in one of the corners. In her face was revealed deep suffering. In the other extreme there was a man who slept on a bed. Martinez approaches the bed, grabs the man by the throat and tells him, "Deliver me my mother you miserable one or I will kill you." The man reached for his gun; it was too late. His name is Velarde. They leave him abandoned in this underground room, a sealed tomb. Pablo recovered his mother. The three go in search of Guadalupe. Guadalupe tells them of the death of their father. Martinez carries his mother and sister to Cuernavaca where they are to remain during the war.

We return to the Fajardo family in Mexico where Don Modesto is telling his daughter that he is going to marry her to the first French official that asks her hand in marriage. When the news of the love affair between Demuriez and Clara reaches the ears of Don Modesto it makes him very angry. After he had lodged Demuriez in his home and placed before him the most exquisite wines in order that he would be his son-in-law, the young French

official planned to marry Clara instead of Luz. He thinks he has been robbed.

Maximilian and Carlota arrive on the ship Navara May 28, 1864. There had been constructed in the Plaza de Armas a triumphal arch of immense proportions dedicated to the archduke and his wife. Just at the time the Archduke embarked, Victor Emmanuel was taking the crown of United Italy. At the time Maximilian was leaving the Navara Clara was in the oratorio of her sumptuous home. Her father enters and Clara confesses to him the love she has felt in her heart for more than a year. The two agree that there is something superior to this love; that is vengeance. On the twelfth of June of the year 1864 the archduke and his wife entered the Capital. Fernandez in the meantime was in the mountains of Michoacan. Those mountains are the asylum of liberty and the fountain of patriotism. A few months after his arrival Maximilian passed to Cuernavaca to take some baths in the hot zone. He had constructed a magnificent habitation as the imperial residence. The sister of Pablo Martinez is Guadalupe. She and her mother are living in Cuernavaca during the months of the Empire. Guadalupe meets a captain in the French army and falls in love with him. He comes to see her at the reja. Guadalupe tells him of her brother that was fighting against the Empire and had prohibited her to speak a word with the

invaders. In spite of his attitude and her own feelings she loved him. The Captain tells Guadalupe that she is the image that he has carried in his soul; that her existence has been the revelation of his life.

During the scene in which the two pledge each other their love, Guadalupe receives news concerning her brother. Pablo has been wounded and is in the hands of the French. She hands the letter to the French Captain saying: "Pablo Martinez es mi hermano." The French Captain tells Guadalupe not to worry because he will save the life of her brother by seeing the Emperor this night. The captain before leaving Guadalupe that night makes her swear that she will come to him the night of his death.

Juarez in the meantime had established his Capital at the Paso del Norte. News arrived here of the assassination of Lincoln and the coming in of Johnson; also the news of the surrender of Lee to Grant. Shortly after Guadalupe had received the letter telling her of the arrest of Pablo, Quiñones arrived at the quarters of Juárez and tells them how Martinez had been released by the order of the Emperor, and how he had refused his liberty unless Quiñones were allowed to go free. Later, on an expedition through Apache territory Quiñones and his companions are captured and killed.

Meanwhile in Mexico the Empress had named Clara and Luz as two of her maids of honor. In the same newspaper in which Luz finds the news that she has been named a



maid of honor, she also finds the news that Eduardo has been made a general. In their position as ladies of honor to the Empress, the two girls, Clara and Luz, secure passports for their Republican friends who have been captured and are in the hands of the French.

Meanwhile in France Julio Favre and Señor Thiers saw the tragic end of the monarchical adventure. Events in the United States boded ill for the Mexican monarchy. Maximilian slept amid his Empire by aid of the incense of power and the myrrh of adulation until the noise of the victory of Richmond and the voice of Napoleon III announcing the departure of the expeditionary troops awoke him.

Maximilian was happy in Cuernavaca. He said that Guadalupe was only one flower in the desert of his life. He loved this poor creature, to whom he was not able even to give his name. He thought continually: "What is going to become of her when she finds out my deceit?"

Maximilian solicited the aid of his brother in the struggle, but he was too concerned with the war with Prussia and the question of Lombardy-Venetia. The situation of Maximilian and Carlota became desperate. On the fifth of February 1866 Maximilian was awaiting an emissary of the Emperor Napoleon bringing important news to the Emperor. Carlota entered the room and hid behind some curtains during the interview. Marshal Bazaine and



the envoy of Napoleon, Baron Saillard arrived. Saillard announced to Maximiliano that the day has come when the French army must evacuate the Imperial territory by order of His Majesty, Napoleon III. "His Majesty will withdraw the troops in three sections; the first in November 1866, the second in March 1867 and the third in November 1867." His Majesty Napoleon III send Saillard to communicate this message to the Emperor. This envoy reminded Maximilian that in the Treaty of Miramar he had guaranteed to pay the cost of the French Intervention and to that date not one cent had been paid. Saillard explained to Maximilian that he could be paid not only in money but other ways too. For example, the ceding of Sonora and Lower California to France. France would probably retain its troops in Mexico if this were done. Maximilian replied to the conversation of Baron Saillard that he had sworn to uphold the national territory and that he would do this. He continued, saying that he would not stain his name with an indignant action such as the sale of Mexican territory. Maximilian begs the baron to tell Napoleon "that there remains only my blood to shed as a sacrifice on the altar, and that I am disposed to shed the last drop. From today France has nothing in common with Maximilian I. We have finished, senor Baron. Let the French expeditionary Army defend itself as it sees fit on the pilgrimage to Vera Cruz." France from that time divorced itself from Mexico.

Senor Baron told Maximilian that he would take possession of the custom houses in order to reimburse this debt. The two French officials leave.

Following this scene Carlota expresses the idea that probably that is the best thing that could have happened, because France was hated by the Mexican people. "Probably they will like just alone."

In June 1866 Pablo Martinez goes to visit his sister Guadalupe in Cuernavaca. He was no longer happy and hearty. The unfortunate happenings had made him melancholy and had worked this change. Pablo Martinez had seen one by one his most beloved companions disappear. The death of Quiñones had especially affected him. He became very revengeful toward his enemies. He was hungry for blood. The name of Martinez was the echo of terror. Martinez had become the right hand man of General Riva Palacio. When Pablo goes to visit his sister he finds the French captain there. The conversation between Guadalupe and the captain was a sad one. He tells her that she has accepted a future that is going to end in an abyss. But Guadalupe said: "Immediately I will become your wife." The captain was on the verge of asking her this question: "What will you do alone in the world when I disappear in the seas of adversity--when your eyes are opened to the light of horrible reality?" At this moment Pablo Martinez arrives. The two embrace. Three years had

changed considerably the appearance of the man. His beard and hair had grown out. His face was burned from the sun and his suit was in tatters. He gave the aspect of being a bandit. Martinez exclaims to his sister how beautiful she is--what eyes--what lips. He tells her that he has thought of her every day. He brings her his savings, a belt filled with gold. Pablo asks his sister concerning the last words of his mother. He wanted to know if she spoke his name in her last moments. Guadalupe tells her brother that the mother has left a letter for Pablo. This letter consists of the following plea: "Pablo, your sister is given over to an impossible love affair. Save her from the dishonor that threatens her. I leave her alone in the world, delivered over to a passion whose future frightens me. Save your sister. It is the last plea of a dying mother near eternity. Good-bye." Pablo believing in the dishonor of his sister asks: "What have you done? Tell me who this man is. I will make him marry you or I will kill him. Tell me his name, Guadalupe, his name. If he is a Frenchman he has come to shed our blood. Probably even his steel would enter my heart." Guadalupe tells her brother that the captain has not fought in his company since he has loved her. "He is always at the side of the Emperor and has saved many prisoners." Pablo thinks he understands now. He thinks that this man has saved him, and as a recompense he has asked for the honor of his

sister. Pablo tells his sister that he would have preferred death to dishonor. Guadalupe tells her brother that she is as "pure as the day my mother gave birth to me." Pablo wants to know why this man has not offered her marriage. Guadalupe replies that they had planned to be married before his arrival. She says that she has no doubt of his love. From the first time that he saw her he had been full of faith and affection. Guadalupe is the depository of his secrets. She knows his sufferings and she possesses his entire soul. Pablo decides to wait for three or four days with Guadalupe in order to talk to this man. Guadalupe is sure that he will love him as a brother. She calls her brother. They go to an adjoining room and see the French captain. Pablo recognizes in the man the Emperor Maximilian. He uttered: "Maximiliano! El Emperador!" He fell to the ground. "El Emperador!" murmured the young girl and hid her face between her hands. Guadalupe orders Maximiliano to leave. Maximilian leaves the house despaired. When Martinez awakes he carries his sister with him believing that he would abandon her at the mercy of that man should he leave her. Maximilian a few minutes after their departure goes to the house of Guadalupe, and discovers she is gone. He is desperate.

The Republican arms were having success throughout Mexico. Eduardo Fernandez, upon learning that Luz had been made a lady of honor, believed that she had not

remained loyal to him, and that she was sympathizing with the Empire. He associated all the scandal of the European courts with the court at Chapultepec. Eduardo became desperate. Jealousies devoured him. He had received a letter from Luz. He made a strong effort and burned it. A few months later he received another letter from Luz. This one was bordered in black; he did not open it. He did not believe in the loyalty of Luz. By not opening these letters he was spared a terrible pain. The letters of Luz told him of the death of his mother. It reminded him of her love. The letter of his mother follows: "The afflictions of which I have been a victim in these four years have finished opening my tomb. God has sent me an angel to receive my last sighs. This angel of goodness is Luz of whose love you are not able to doubt. If you want me to lower myself tranquilly to the tomb make Luz your wife."

While Eduardo was debating opening these letters, an old man arrived bringing two boys of the same size and appearance. The old man told General Fernandez that the two wanted to serve in the army. The two young boys were called Juan and Simón Torrenos. They wanted to join the army because the anciano, the only father they knew, was not able to maintain them and they wanted to support him. Eduardo noticed the likeness of the two to Pablo Martinez.

At this time in Mexico, Demuriez had returned to Clara after an absence of two years in Sonora. He tells Clara that after his absence of two years he returns to her side loving her with more ardor and enthusiasm. Demuriez comes to the house of Don Alfonso Rodriguez and asks for Clara's hand. He tells him that he has loved the Mexicans, and that tomorrow he will resign from the army. The father having concentrated all his love in Clara, feels that there is nothing else to do. He proposes to Demuriez that the three of them live together because he has no one in the world to live with except them. Demuriez accepts.

The next day Pablo Martinez arrives at the house of Clara and Don Alfonso bringing his sister Guadalupe. He tells the father of Clara the story of the relationship between Guadalupe and the Emperor. Don Alfonso promises Pablo that his sister will be welcome in their house. "She will remain at the side of Clara, who will love her as a sister. If you die you will be assured of her future." Martinez leaves after being relieved of the weight of his sister's welfare.

During all the period of the Intervention Carlota was the most skillful adviser of Maximilian. Carlota, shortly after her arrival in Mexico, put on mourning for the death of her father, King Leopold. Carlota was a Protestant, but she offered up her prayers in the temples of Mexico.

She was an arch enemy of the Mexican clergy. "She had the sacrifice of attending our ceremonies when her soul was wrapped up in the mists of the Lutheran doctrines."

The unhappy Maximilian had not had in his existence an hour of tranquility. In the court of Vienna he lived as the brother of the heir, humble and dejected in the presence of Joseph II who did not love him. Flung from his tender years into the torments of the ocean under the pretext of instructing him in the navy, his existence had been a hundred times in danger. Maximilian was not a man of much capacity. He was the Don Juan de Austria of Philip II without having the glory nor the boldness and fearlessness of the bastard of Charles V. Joseph II arranged the marriage with Carlota Amalia. Maximilian began to love the princess tenderly but God had not wished to give him succession and his home was sad and abandoned. He had charge for a while of Lombardy-Venetia but his brother became jealous of him and retired him from the position.

Napoleon III at this time in the life of Maximilian wished to establish an Empire in Mexico and thought of Maximilian as the instrument most appropriate for his purposes in America. Joseph II consented to his brother accepting the crown of Mexico, but only after first renouncing his rights of blood relationship to the throne of Austria. Later, Joseph II in the hour of danger for Maximilian, contented himself with saying in the court of Vienna that



his brother had run an adventure whose eventualities he had forecast beforehand. Maximilian upon setting foot on the ship Navara had had presentiment of a disaster.

At this time Maximilian received a note from the United States government in which the United States said that they had secured assurances from the French government of the withdrawal of the troops, and it went ahead to state that should any European power send to Mexico one ship load of soldiers that that would be justification enough for the United States government to give that country's minister to the United States his passports. The note continued with emphatic language: "The Intervention of any European power in the internal affairs in Mexico will be considered by this government as a just causa de guerra. Maximilian believed that they were lost. Carlota resolved to go to Europe to the Court of the Tuileries to plead with the French Ceasar to allow the troops to remain.

Meanwhile Demuriez in his hotel was looking over the portraits of his two sons and wife who lived in France. He had lied to Clara. She believed, of course, that he was single. The plan of Demuriez was this: To marry Clara, and after a few months return to France and then carry his family to England to start life anew. Clara had an immense fortune. Demuriez hates to think of this crime. Up to this time he has never committed a bad action, but the desire for money pushes him on.



July 6, 1866 was the last birthday of Maximilian. On July 7, 1866 Carlota left the capital for Europe. On July 13, she embarked from Vera Cruz. She arrived on the continent August 9, 1866. She arrived at a supreme moment in the European crisis. Austria had just had the defeat of Sadowa. Italy was in the hour of resurrection. Joseph II was unpopular. The star of the house of Hapsburg was beginning to be eclipsed. Carlota desired to see Napoleon on the question of delaying the departure of the troops in Mexico. When she arrived in France the Empress Eugenie came to see her; also the secretaries of war and finance. Napoleon tried to evade the interview; but finally Carlota obtained the desired interview with the Emperor of the French. This interview was at 4:00 on the twenty-third of August 1866. On the second of December 1852 there occurred the establishment of the Empire. Napoleon's celebrated expedition to Mexico had been a solemn failure. Johnson, President of the United States, had treated Napoleon as a lackey in ordering him to withdraw the French troops. Napoleon in the interview told Carlota that it was impossible-- that all Europe was against him. He had troubles of his own in France.

Carlota then went to see the Pope. She arrived the twenty-fourth of September. Carlota, after seeing the Pope, went to see her brother, the Count of Flanders. The two embraced, Carlota still wearing mourning for her

father. Carlota told her brother that Napoleon had carried them to the American region as a tool of politics. "Napoleon is a miserable wretch; he cries like a woman. He trembles before the threats of Johnson and Bismarck." Carlota told her brother that she still had five million pesos of her inheritance that she could use in support of the Empire. But her brother told her that in the will of Leopold he had specified that none of this money was to be used for that purpose. Carlota was losing her mind. Everything seemed to be against her.

Meanwhile in Mexico, an imperial officer of Napoleon advised Maximilian that there were only two roads--muerte o abdicación. France advised Maximilian to accept abdication. He also brought the news that Joseph, upon receiving the note from the United States, had dissolved his body of volunteers. Maximilian repeated that he would not abdicate but would die in his place. Maximilian told the envoy to tell the Emperor that he would never abdicate nor flee. The Envoy left, believing that the Austrian had less judgment than his wife, the Empress of Mexico. Maximilian found himself in a precarious situation: To return to Europe to the Palace of Miramar was to present himself ridiculous; to remain in Mexico was to expose himself to death.

Don Fajardo has changed his opinion concerning the Republic. He is now in support of it. The parents believe that their daughter would save them from catastrophe with

her relations with General Fernandez.

One day the three girls, the three heroines of this novel, Luz, Clara, and Guadalupe, hear the crash of a carriage near their house. The gentleman to whom the carriage belongs asks permission to enter the house until another carriage arrives. This man is Maximilian. The three girls recognize him. Guadalupe faints. Maximilian recognizes her; he becomes intensely pale; his hands begin to tremble, and without knowing it he says emotionally: "Guadalupe!" Maximilian leaves the house immediately. That night Maximilian returns to see Guadalupe and to ask her pardon; he asks her to remember her pledge that she would come to see him in his dying moments. Maximilian leaves the house, intensely moved. He thinks of his wife. He murmurs: "I have forgotten her; I am a criminal."

On February 5, 1867 began the evacuation of the Capital. After the withdrawing of the French troops the army of Maximilian consisted of Mexican troops, Austrians, Belgians and a multitude of French adventurers.

After Demuriez had gained the hand of Clara, Don Alfonso was profoundly sad, but he knew that the separation of Clara was inevitable, because the future of woman was in marriage. The night of the wedding there had been invited the most distinguished families of society. The room was richly decorated. The Fajardos were present but Luz remained at home. She was in her room. Her appearance

was in disorder. She had marks of weeping; her eyes were inflamed. She had a presentiment that the marriage of Clara and Demuriez was not going to be happy. She had noticed that Demuriez had been acting in a strange way. Luz was looking at a collection of letters that Demuriez had left in the Fajardo house. Luz discovered in them two pictures, one of a beautiful woman and the other of two children. There was written on the back of these portraits: "A reminder to my husband--Matilde Demuriez, and Alfonso and Rosa Demuriez to their adored father." Luz suddenly realized that Demuriez was married. She ordered the coach immediately and rushed to the house on San Cosme. Clara was dressed beautifully in white silk. Just as the priest was saying: "I unite you in the name of -----," and his sentence remained unfinished, Luz entered the room, and cried in a loud voice: "Señores, this wedding can not continue; señor Demuriez has a wife in France." Clara looked at Demuriez; she saw that her friend spoke the truth. She immediately snatched from his breast the cross of the legion of honor. Clara ordered two of her lackeys to put Demuriez out of the house. Within a few moments after this, the noise of a pistol was heard; Demuriez had committed suicide.

After the above incident Clara and Guadalupe, both disappointed in love, joined the Hermanas de la Caridad in charge of a hospital.

The second of April, 1867, is a day celebrated throughout Mexico. The Republic gained Puebla from the hands of Imperial forces.

In Puebla there was a man called Pascual Rivera. He was the man who had been the phantom to Pablo Martinez and had been the accomplice of Velarde, the man who had taken away the mother of Pablo. One day while in Puebla he decided to go back to visit the Casa de los Duendes. Just as he entered the door his eye caught the sight of a skeleton, the remains of Velarde. His purpose in coming to this house again was to take away two trunks of treasure which had been there. He is the father of the twins that had entered the Republican army under the command of General Fernandez.

Maximilian had fled from the Capital. He was located now in the Convento de la Cruz near Puebla. From the tower of this convent he could see the line of battle and the activities of both forces. Poor Maximilian! He was beginning to realize that defeat was inevitable. He trembled like an epileptic; there passed through his mind the image of an unfortunate woman, Carlota. Later he fled to the Cerro de las Campanas. He is seeing his imperial dreams disappear. He cried like Boabdil upon losing the kingdom of Granada. Maximilian surrendered to Escobedo. There upon the hill "of the bells" the Empire and the Republic met, two governmental ideas, the absolutism and the democratic idea.

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Riva Palacio left Escobedo in charge of his illustrious prisoner.

Meanwhile Eduardo and his division are approaching the City of Mexico. Among some papers which he is looking over he finds an old letter of Luz's which he had received some months before telling him of the death of his mother. He opens it. It contains the last words of his mother. They are to marry Luz. This statement by his mother before her death testified that Luz had been faithful to him. He is sad upon learning of the death of his mother. In the street one day after Eduardo's division had arrived in the city, Luz sees the servant of Eduardo, Estanislao Luna. Luz sends a message by him to Eduardo. It is: "My heart awaits you." The next day Senor De Fajardo received a card from Eduardo announcing his visit. Don Modesto was happy at the turn of events because he anticipates the marriage of his daughter with one of the men of the revolution. Dona Canuta, however, remained firm in her ideas and faithful to monarchical traditions. Edward entered the Fajardo house; he asked for the hand of Luz. Poor soldier! He believed that never would arrive the day of happiness in which Luz would be united to him. The General took leave of the parents, saluted tenderly his promised one, and left.

Meanwhile back in the camp of Edward, the twins, the sons of Pascual Rivera, Juan and Simon Torrenos, in digging a trench one day near the edge of the City of Mexico

discovered two chests filled with gold and jewels. They had been buried there by Pascual Rivera, their father. All of this was unknown to them. It was the same night that Edward returned and announced his engagement. The two boys picked out the most beautiful jewel of the selection and gave it to Edward to give to Luz.

Within a few days there was celebrated in a parish in the city the marriage of General Eduardo Fernandez and Senorita Luz Fajardo. The church was adorned profusely. General Porfidio Diaz and his young wife were in attendance.

After Maximilian's capture many friends of the Empire pleaded for his release. But the Mexican people were not sure that he would live in Miramar if he were released. They asked: "What guarantees are the sovereigns of Europe able to give that we shall not have a new invasion in order to sustain the Empire?"

Meanwhile when the execution of Maximilian seemed certain, Guadalupe makes Don Serafin promise her he will conduct her to the cell of the Emperor in order to see him in his dying moments. On the 13th of June 1867 Maximilian and his accomplices Miramon and Mejia are tried for the crime against the nation. The wives of the accomplices come to see them; they have babes in their arms. The place of the trial is the Teatro de Iturbide. They are tried in a military court. The trial was a question not of the lives



of the three men, but the question of the intervention and the empire. The lawyers defending Maximilian were Vasquez and Ortega. After the sentence of death to Mejía and Miramón, the bailiff went to the jail for Maximilian, but he would not attend the hearing. The lawyers of Maximilian argued ably for his release citing that Maximilian always had the welfare of the Mexican nation at heart as evidenced by the fact that he would not accept the throne of Mexico until the entire Mexican nation expressed that desire. But all of this was for naught. He was convicted. An appeal was made to Juárez for his pardon, but refused. A plan for his escape was made, but it was discovered and ended unsuccessfully. Juárez realized that Europe would accuse him of the assassination of Maximilian; but he accused Europe of the offense against the independence of Mexico. Juárez believed that the pardon of Maximilian would perpetuate Civil War. It was necessary to kill this man in order to give the monarchy this last blow. President Juárez accepted before all the world the responsibility of this deed.

On the sixteenth of June, 1867 at 2:00 in the afternoon was the date set for execution. Just as the prisoners were being led from their cells a delay in the execution of three days was given by the government. The time now set was the nineteenth of June at 6:00 in the morning. Before



his execution Maximilian dressed himself with the greatest care. He took a cup of chocolate. Just as he was leaving two sisters of charity entered the rear door. Guadalupe uttered good-bye and fell into the arms of her companion. Maximilian was profoundly sad. He realized that it was Guadalupe. The three prisoners were taken to the Cerro de las Campanas. Maximilian asked for a handkerchief; it was granted him. He tied the handkerchief in such a position so as to prevent the fire burning his beard. The three occupied their positions; Miramón in the middle, Maximilian on the left, and Mejía to his right. Maximilian directed to the sky these words: "On a day so beautiful as this I wished to die."

The shot rang out on the clear morning air. The three prisoners fell. The mortal remains of the archduke reposed in a coffin placed near the altar of the temple de las Capuchinas. During the time the body remained there one of the sisters of charity approached the corpse, kissed its forehead with respect and disappeared. It was Guadalupe. A man in the rear of the church saw this happening and recognized his sister. He uttered: "Pobre Guadalupe, pobre hermana mía."

At this time in Paris Napoleon was attending the Exposition of Paris. One of his helpers brought to him the news that Maximilian had been shot. The Emperor Napoleon

paled; his hands trembled. The blood of the archduke fell upon him. The death of Maximilian seemed to haunt Napoleon all the rest of his life.

"A day of atonement will come for Napoleon--a day when he has to give an account for this deed. He will have to answer to the Belgians for the beloved daughter of King Leopold. The entire world will condemn the Caesar of the Tuilleries that has sacrificed on the altar of ambition the unfortunate princess and the young archduke of Austria--whose bloody remains claim vengeance from the imperial tomb of Vienna where they await the resurrection."

## LA INTERVENCION Y EL IMPERIO

On the 29th of January 1851 the beautiful Engenia de Montijo, Condesa de Teba, was married to the French Emperor Napoleon III. The family of Napoleon was opposed to the marriage telling him that this union would be a misfortune for him and for the dynasty. After the marriage ceremony, the Emperor and Empress signed the Registrar of the Imperial House which only contained two other acts--that of the adoption of the Prince Eugenie, by Napoleon I, and that of the birth of the King of Rome. On the 30th of January there was celebrated the religious wedding in the church of Nuestra Señora. The interior of the church was profusely adorned. Fifteen thousand candles burned illuminating the image of the saints. At the conclusion of the ceremony there was heard the music whose words were the following:

Si que Dios salve El Emperador,  
Que es la esperanza de toda nuestra raza!  
Que Dios le ayude y le favorezca en sus empresas  
Y le dé ventura en lides.

Following the wedding there were many fiestas. Included among them was a dance given by the Senate of France.

There came from Mexico just before the marriage of Emperor Napoleon and Eugenia de Montijo a Mexican lady by

the name of Señora Jecker. This woman had a daughter, Eugenie. Her brother-in-law had been a great doctor and had amassed an immense fortune. She had an intimate friend called Paquita Agero. To the tertulias of this lady there gathered all the Mexicans in the city of Paris. One night there was celebrated a tertulia because of the approaching marriage of Paquita with Don Juan Prim, a Spanish general of very great merit. Napoleon appeared that night as pictures had painted him. He had short legs, small clear eyes that revealed an internal life always at high tension. The Empress upon arriving at the tertulia saluted all those around her. She was dressed in a beautiful gown wearing a crown of violets and a small headdress with rich stones. The eyes of the Empress were blue having an expression of innocence and goodness. Her mouth was small. She had brilliant white teeth. Her hands and feet were so small that her gloves and shoes only served for children of ten to twelve years. Her height was somewhat more than medium, almost as tall as her husband. She was exquisitely proportioned. La Emperatriz spoke Spanish and French effectively.

Meanwhile in Mexico the conservative government fell and there came into power the liberal regime. It did not recognize its previous debts. This caused the financial ruin of Juan Bautista, the brother-in-law of Señora Jecker.

Shortly after learning of this news the husband of this senora, Pierre, died. Madam Jecker then returned to her native land, Mexico. The new government established by Juarez consecrated itself to virtue and wisdom. Many bishops were expelled by this liberal government. The numbers of the convents and monasteries were reduced.

Shortly after her return to Mexico the mother of Señora Jecker died leaving her property and valuables to her husband. This husband was the second one for the senora and not the father of Josefina Jecker. This man, whose body odor all the perfumes of Arabia could not hide, proposed marriage to Señora Jecker telling her that he loved her more than he ever had loved her mother. She refused saying that she had pledged herself never to contract another marriage upon the death of her husband. One day she is visited by a gentleman, Miguel Moncalian. There is a relationship between his parents and hers. This family had been prominent in the history of Spain and had lived in Granada. This gentleman tells her that she owns much property in Mexico and makes the proposition to her that he will help her regain her haciendas if he were paid one tenth of the wealth he would secure for her. When she went to bed that night she examined the papers locating the position of her estates. She made a prayer to God: "Señor,

dame esas riquezas, dame ese dinero y te prometo emplearlo todo en servicio tuyo."

Dubois de Saligny was a minister of the French Republic sent over by Napoleon III to collect the French debt. Shortly after his arrival Madam Jecker came to see him concerning his aid in securing her property and the money the Mexican government owed her. He tells her that he thinks that she could better arrange her affairs by going to Europe. The Señora plans to leave her daughter, Genie, in the care of a licenciado, Don German Caballero de los Olivos, and his wife, Doña Lorenza. This family has two sons, Miguel and Pancho.

After twenty-six days of sailing the Señora arrived in Paris. Her real mission was to inform the French officials of the state of Mexico--civil war between the liberals and conservatives, numerous assassinations, robberies etc. Her mission seemed to be to try to secure French troops in Mexico to restore order and morality. She meets numerous French officials who are already thinking of the possibility of restoring order in Mexico by putting on the throne some European prince. The Senora believed that this plan of intervention in Mexico would solve the present conditions within that country. Maximilian accepted the throne of Mexico provided that the majority of the Mexican nation would call him and provided that his brother,

José II, and his father-in-law should approve the plan. Also included in the condition was that France should aid in the consolidation of the throne.

Senora Jecker obtains in Paris an interview with the Empress. She is impressed by the luxury of her surroundings. Her problem in seeing Eugenie was to persuade her to influence her husband to intervene in Mexico. She believes that the government is ruined, and that it will be saved only if some nation intervenes and restores peace and order in that beautiful country. She tells the Empress of the bad treatment that the clergy and the French residents in Mexico receive. She tells her also that Señor Saligny, French minister to Mexico, is on the point of being assassinated, the guilty one already being commissioned by the Mexican government. Many religious orders have been suppressed and much of the church property has been confiscated by the government. The Empress tells the Mexican Señora that on the 31st of October there was signed in London a convention in which France, England and Spain promises to intervene in the affairs of Mexico. The Señora accompanied by José Hidalgo leave the rooms of the Empress, confident that there has been accomplished in that interview the proposed regeneration of Mexico.

In the French enterprise it was decided that France should pay part of the expenses. In the Convention of

London on the 31st of October between England, Spain and France, the object of the arrangement was to guarantee the security of the foreign residents and to obtain the payment of the claims which these countries have against the government, which is to be accomplished without any acquisition of territory nor any particular advantage nor without exercising in the interior of Mexico any influence that is able to affect the right of the Mexican nation of electing and constituting freely its form of government. Nothing was said about restoring the properties of the Church.

There were supporters of the French Intervention in Mexico who actually believed that the United States could be conquered with a small army of 40,000 men and that this task would not offer them any difficulty.

Senora Jecker attended an imperial ball given by their Majesties, Napoleon and Eugenie. There were presented at this ball other members of the imperial family. The Emperor Napoleon appeared pensive. Of what was he thinking? Of his trials to escape from Strasburg, of his alliance with the Carbonarios and of his oath to make Italy free, or perhaps of his constant ambition? He frequently smiled wryly. There were present at this ball important people of the Empire. In attendance were the Generals Bazaine and Forey, who had distinguished themselves in Africa and



Crimea. Many Mexican churchmen in exile in France were there at the ball. Señora Jecker was introduced to Napoleon III who was instantly impressed with her dark beauty. After the ball she learned that she was to have an interview with him. There entered the mind of the Senora the concubines of former rulers, Madame de Maintenon with Louis XIV, Madame de Pompadour with Louis XV and others. The Emperor did not fulfill his meeting.

In December 1861 Senora Jecker arrived in Havana. There had been other conservative Mexicans sent to Mexico to prepare many of the people for the French expedition. Among these were Padre Miranda, Almonte, Hidalgo and Gutierrez Estrada. They were to go later to the palace of Miramar to solicit Maximilian to undertake the Mexican venture. On January 2, 1862 the combined armies of France, Spain, and England left Havana for Mexico. The troops consisted of 3,000 French, 700 English and 5,000 Spanish. They took possession of Vera Cruz.

Señora Jecker arrived in Vera Cruz with Miguel Miramon and his brother Joaquin. On the 28th of January Senora Jecker visited her chief, senor Saligny, the representative of the French. This gentleman reminded Senora Jecker: "¿Recuerda usted que hace cuatro o cinco meses le anuncié que Francia intervendría en los negocios de Méjico? Los dos mil

setecientos hombres bastaban y sobraban para haber tomado a Méjico en instalado al archiduque Maximiliano en el Palacio de Moctezuma."

Juarez in the meantime was ready to satisfy all just debts, but never to accept conditions that offended the dignity of the nation or to compromise its independence. Juarez believed that the allies were resolved to humiliate Mexico and to introduce themselves in its politics and its administration and perhaps to destroy its nationality. The three representatives of the countries France, Spain and England delivered their ultimatum to Juarez.. On the 25th of December Maximilian gave his answer ot "yes" to the Mexican Commission.

Upon the arrival of the French troops they suffered from the hot climate at Vera Cruz. They had not anticipated the climatic conditions. The sanitary conditions were terrible. The soldiers were attacked with spells of vomiting and destructive fevers. The Mexican government realizing these dangers wished to retain the French troops where they were since each day they were losing scores of men. It was the rainy season along the coast.

Senora Jecker received a letter one day from the people with whom her daughter Genie was in charge. The note read: "Genie desapareció ayer--témese secuestro por gentes gobierno. Alarmadísimo." A few minutes after

receiving this news the Senora, who was already planning to cross the Juarez lines to Mexico City, received a letter from her daughter which told her: "Adorada Madre: Cuando recibas esta carta, ya estaré muy lejos de la casa del señor Olivos-- que tan bondadoso fué con nosotros. Hoy me escapo del convento de Santa Brígida donde estaba en calidad de depósito, y me voy con mi adorado Miguel que me quiere con toda su alma y que se casará conmigo tan pronto como concluyan los trámites, que son necesarios para que nos consideren unidos Dios y la ley. Ocupada tú en acariciar sueños de tesoro, de política, y de posición, no te ocupaste en mí-- pues me veías solo como una muñeca que se deja encargada en casa de un amigo o un pariente. En todos los meses que estuviste en Europa solo me escribiste una vez para recomendarme que me portara bien. Conozco que no podríamos vivir en lo de adelante como habíamos vivido. Tu eres demasiado extranjeriza, demasiado aristocrata, demasiado sabia y estas demasiado metido en política, para que te pudieras avenir a hacer vida comun con una pobre que no sabe nada de diplomacia-- no de corte ni de grandeza y que quiere a Méjico como te quiere a ti--con toda su alma. Miguel sale a defender a su patria-- a combatir a los franceses. Soy Mejicana de corazón, porque estoy recreada en el hogar de los Olivos, donde se venera el nombre de la patria y se procura hacerla dichosa." Another letter accompanied this one; it was from the licenciado Ceballero de los Olivos. It explained the

romance of Eugenia y Miguel, the son of the Olivos family.

Eugenia and Miguel after being married left for Puebla from Mexico City. When they reach Puebla they had been married two months. Miguel Caballero de los Olivos came to this city to defend its plaza against the French and Eugenia came with him in order to follow his fortune. Miguel was second-lieutenant in the Mexican army. They entered the Cathedral at Puebla where they met Sedeño who had charge of the Holy Cathedral. They arranged to secure rooms from him. Miguel received twelve reales each day for his service in the army. Their room cost them five pesos each month. While Sedeño was showing the new couple their room, and after they had decided to take it, he called his family, Eufrasia, Eustasia, Gervasia and Protasia. They are all of the same appearance and appear to be quadruplets. He told them before his roomers: "Vienen a vivir en la casa. Ya le he dicho a mis amigos que ustedes le ayunaran a la señora en cuanto puedan--si es que él tiene que ir a batirse a hacer servicio o a cualquier otra cosa."

The next morning following the first night in Puebla Miguel presented himself to Captain Ruiz, his commander. In the battle that ensued a French prisoner was captured. He was very valiant and courageous. He had been a professor of latin in a French University but his real

love was the army. Miguel was appointed the official to whom he was entrusted. At the battle at Puebla the French commanders were Almonte and Miranda; the Mexican commander was Zaragoza.

Miguel became a victim of yellow fever. He went to his home in Puebla with Eugenia. The first night he experienced cold chills running through all his body. He became delirious. He talked of Victor Hugo's book, Han de Islandia. In his delirium he conceived the image of Puebla burning. The doctor arrived and made an examination of Miguel who was entirely prostrate and without movement. The doctor told Eugenia that his case was not the only one because of the rain that had been falling continuously in Puebla. In each one of these spells of fever the neighbors at the sick bed foretold the death of the sick man. Eugenia sent for the parents of her husband, Doña Lorenza and Don German. Doña Lorenza cleaned her eyes with her handkerchief and began to cry in silence. As the parents and Eugenia gazed at the sick man, at exactly 12:30 the Licenciado drew near the bed and saw that the face of the patient was changing. "Creo que se muere, alcanzó a gritar." Doña Lorenza fell to her feet praying for the life of her son. A portion of the prayer follows: "Cuando mis pies inmóviles me advierten que me jornada en este mundo toca a su fin, tened piedad de mí,

Jesus misericordioso. Cuando mis ojos oscurecidos y turbados con la sombra de la muerte, levanten sus tristes y moribundas miradas hacia vos, misericordioso Jesús, tened piedad de mí. Cuando mis parientes y amigos, reunidos alrededor mi lecho, se enternezcan por mis sufrimientos y os invoquen por mí entre sollozos misericordioso Jesús, tened piedad de mí." Eugenia was embracing the body of Miguel saying the most tender things: "¿Cómo te vas, hijito de mi alma? ¿Cómo me dejas aquí, encanto mío? ¿Qué hago sin ti, que tú eres mi padre, mi madre, y toda mi vida? Miguel, Miguelito, óyome, óyome; yo soy, tu guerra, tu Genie, tu francesita...Ya está acabando." Miguel had arrived at the crisis of his illness. After a half hour in which he passed through this crisis, Miguel's respiration became even and his pulse tranquil. "Ahora, dijo Don German a Eugenia, te acuestas a descansar un rato." Eugenia threw herself on the floor with a small pillow and began to rest from the fatigues of three weeks. Doña Lorenza continued praying. Don German went to the door of the house and gazed out on the stillness of the night and uttered a word of thanks to his God--"Gracias."

Miguel recovered. He presented himself again to the army he had so valiantly served. A few days after his going back to the army he received a letter from his friend,

the Frenchman, Chardon Nicolas.

Eugenia after the departure of her husband could hardly stand to be without him. She enclosed herself in her room. Her energy began to weaken. She cried a great deal. She was sad. She began not to pay attention to her person. She was pale with circles under her eyes. It rained and rained in the year of 1862 far more than was usual in Mexico. Eugenia watched the rain; she appeared to be mentally lost. When it was already beginning to get dark she placed herself in the Casa de las Vacas working in the flowers and in the dulces. This family of girls was accustomed to prepare delicious meals and Eugenia was learning much from them. Each day after writing to her husband and after cleaning her scant furniture and arranging her person there remained many free hours. She visited the churches going from one to another, going from one chapel to another studying all the mysteries of the Catholic Church, its saints, its miracles and its beautiful paintings. The church that Eugenia loved was the Cathedral. She liked to sit by the likeness of Christ crucified on the cross. This statue showed his hands traversed by nails, his eyes filled with agony, and the blood of his wounds flowing from his body. This Cathedral of Puebla contains innumerable images of the virgin. Every period

of her life was portrayed from her infancy, her wedding with Joseph, the flight to Egypt, and the scene with the shepherds and the wise men. Thus Eugenia passed her life writing letters, reading them and visiting churches. One night this monotony was interrupted by the arrival of two new neighbors, father and son. The old man was about eighty years old, lean and with white hair. His name was don Juan de Mata Romo. The son was around twenty-five or thirty. He was good looking, with dark beard and brilliant eyes; his name was Antonio.

Miguel had noticed in the Mexican army three types of soldiers, suffering Indians, rancheros alegres, valiant and generous and full of enthusiasm and always ready to make jokes, and los pocos jóvenes de la pequeña burguesía. The ranchers were the element of humor in the war.

General Zaragoza was swarthy, beardless, beautiful eyes although near sighted and a severe look that could be turned into the fury of anger. At this time he was around thirty-three years. He was in the flower of his age.

Miguel had an interview with General Zaragoza. The General had received a letter from General Doblado recommending the Lieutenant Olivos. He went on to say that all classes of Mexicans should desire to defend their country, but the entrances into the army were not abundant.



He asked Miguel his age. It was nineteen. He was assigned to the "estado mayor" of General Zaragoza. Within two days after the arrival of Miguel, Zaragoza ordered preparations for a voyage to Mexico. He had to have a conference with don Benito in order to ask him for supplies to combat the French. The enthusiasm of the people was immense. In the house of the hero gathered the people acclaiming the hope of Mexico. Miguel accompanied him on this trip. He grew to love the General and to feel himself disposed to make any sacrifice for him. The 25th of August there was given a banquet for Zaragoza. After the banquet they prepared to leave for Puebla. Zaragoza and his aids, included was Miguel, left the capital city. It rained nearly all the way. They traveled with haste and at 3:00 in the afternoon they approached Puebla. Shortly after arriving the General became sick. His eyes reddened, his color changed and his countenance became sad. The same doctor that had attended Miguel at Puebla discovered that the General had yellow fever. He told the General: "It is necessary to isolate you and prevent people who have not had the fever coming to you." Miguel approached the doctor and told him: "Yo sufrí ya la fiebre; usted mismo me curó." It was decided that the General should be taken to Puebla; with him were two aids and the doctor. That night on the arrival of

the coach the General was delirious. Miguel advised Eugenia of his arrival and the same night he went to see her. The pleasure of the official was immense when she communicated to him the news of his fatherhood. "Hay que decirselo a mi padre; hay que comunicarselo a tu madre, haciendole saber que los Ubiarcos y Bracamontes tienen ya un heredero."

After the 5th night in Puebla the General was still delirious. He ordered that the plasters that were placed on his arms and legs be removed. He thought they were his boots. He ordered: "Diga a Alejo que me traiga mis botes, mi caballo y mi espada." The doctors protested saying that this could not be. To this Zaragoza replied: "Pero acaso no sabe usted doctorcito de mi alma, que tengo una patria que defender y que me ha confiado su honor? Acaso no sabe que soy el jefe del ejercito, de este ejército de héroes desnudos, de héroes hambrientos, de heroes desarmados; pero valientes, pero nobles, pero grandes?" He became less delirious and asked: "¿Cuántos dias estaré todavía en la cama?" preguntó al médico. "No pasará de seis." A doctor from Mexico arrived along with his mother and sister. He examined him, and finished by declaring: "Nada se puede hacer; es negocio de horas. Es la fiebre mas espantosa que haya visto." Zaragoza was

passing through the crisis. He was not able to survive, and finally after an agony in which he knew that his body had already surrendered, he expired without "grandes extremos." En este momento escribia Navarro su famoso telegrama: "Son las diez y diez minutos de la manana. Acaba de morir el general Zaragoza." All of the soldiers of the army mourned for the man they had lost and for the hopes that escaped them. The death of General Zaragoza caused grief throughout Mexico. The Mexican government was deeply indebted to him. It made arrangements to endow his daughter with 100,000 pesos that she would receive in national property and also a pension annually of 6,000 pesos. There was also given to the mother a pension. The funeral was in Mexico City. In the church there was given a dignified eulogy of Zaragoza. After the funeral his aids returned to Puebla.

Juarez arrived in Puebla the 28th of February. The forces that had been in Atlixco, Cholula, Perotes and other places were concentrated in Puebla in order to make an effective plan of resistance. There were cries of "Viva Mexico. Viva la Independencia. Viva el señor presidente Juarez." Juarez passed in front of the line of battle and the 20,000 men shouted: "Viva Mexico; viva el supremo gobierno constitucional!"

Don José María de Mendoza was descended from the first viceroy of New Spain, Don Antonio de Mendoza. He was a near relative of the Condesa de Teba, empress of the French, Dona Eugenia de Montijo. His walking was the most rare of the many rare things that he did. He advanced his right foot more than his left and consequently there resulted an unequal short step. He was intelligent, studious and discreet. In Puebla there are conserved his deeds as there are guarded in each state those of the heroes. He had to discipline the troops and he had to instruct them and to make them acquainted with the instruments of war. Mendoza had a son who died as an artillery officer in the Mexican army. Mendoza was informed in history, in tactics, and in military discipline. Such was Mendoza, the soul of the defense of Puebla after Zaragoza.

Don Bernabe Sedeño came one morning to his home full of affliction. His face was colorless and his general appearance one of sadness and dejection. His daughters immediately surrounded him demanding the explanation of his mood. He was able to utter one word: "La Catedral." He then took a glass of eggnog that his girls had prepared for him and began his story. It was thought that the French troops were approaching Puebla having already arrived at Acatzingo. Sedeño later obtained permission

to climb the tower of the church. He was accompanied by his family and friends. He looked through the spy glass and made the comment that there were many Frenchmen. Eugenia was with Sedenó's party.

A few days later Eugenia received a messenger from the parents of Miguel. When she saw him she recognized him as Pancho, the brother of Miguel who seemed a brother to her. She greeted him thus: "¡Pancho, por Dios! ¿Qué haces? ¿Tú aquí? ¿Y como le dejó mamá?" He replied that he came for what Miguel came for. He was fighting for the independence of his country, and was in a battalion of Oaxaca. He brought letters to Eugenia and Miguel from Doña Lorenza. The letter that Dona Lorenza sent to Miguel read thus: "Tu hermano, Pancho, el chiquito, la adoracion de mi alma, quien seguia tu camino y meterse tambien de soldado pera defender, como es justo a nuestra querida tierra, hoy en manos del francés. Tu abuelo, mi padre, murio peleando contra los yanquis. Ya ves que vengo de raza de quienes saben lo que es amar a su tierra. Tú, Miguelito, tienes quien te cuide--pero Pancho, el niño---¿Qué será de él? ¿Quién le cuidará si se enferma? Tú cuidale--tú y la sentita que tienes por mujer--denle amparo y cariño, que es lo que él necesita." Tu madre Lorenza.

One night later in the midst of the army firing and during a lull in the battle Eugenia accompanied by

Don Bernabe Sedeño went to see Miguel. Miguel exclaimed: "Hija, que locuras son éstos!" as he cried and kissed the face of his wife. Eugenia responded: "¿Cómo me había de quedar sin verte, cuando dicen que hoy todos ustedes caen prisioneros o los frien en aceite?" Miguel was with the detachment of soldiers that was defending the fort of San Javier. They were forced to surrender after giving the French a terrific battle for their numbers. Two hundred Mexicans, included among them was Miguel, were made prisoners. Miguel during his captivity wrote his impressions of the French to Eugenia. He told her that he believed that: "Mi angel salvador ha sido Chardon, mi prisionero del cinco de mayo." Miguel revealed the fact that many of the French soldiers sympathized with the Mexican cause.

Miguel learned that the Commander Forey planned to abandon Puebla and fortify Cholula and from there march to Mexico City. Miguel learned to know the characteristics of Forey. "Dicen que es hombre culto, y aunque no hace profesion de literato tiene gracia especial para decir versos." Miguel sent his deep affection to all his friends.

General Porfirio Diaz had reached thirty-two years. Porfirio was delicate, dark, pale, with dark eyes, dark hair, serious, silent and always full of calmness and always master of himself. Pancho Caballero de los Olivos arrived at Puebla the 16th of March and immediately asked for the

lodging of Diaz. The little soldier desired to enter the armed forces of Oaxaca. Diaz told him that all the Oaxaquenos were experienced men and tempered in combat and fatigues. He asked Pancho what he knew how to do. He replied: "Sé escribir con muy buena letra; sé hablar el frances; sé batir como un hombre." "La Patria necesita de todos sus hijos, aunque no tengan los años que marca la ley," replied Diaz. Pancho was made sergeant of the Second Battalion of Oaxaca. Pancho was proud of his station. He frequently would say: "Soy de los de Porfirio."

On the second of April, Pancho served under Porfirio. The General gave the command that Olivos should go and rest awhile since he had earned a much needed rest. Pancho then was only sixteen years of age. The Convent of San Agustin was attacked by the French. Pancho Olivos, suffering from fever, obtained permission in order to rest a little on Holy Thursday. He was accompanied by another boy. They took refuge in the luxurious rooms of San Agustin. The two boys slept until the dawn when they were awakened by a horrible blast of gun fire. The companion of Pancho suddenly exclaimed: "Estás herido; estás lleno de sangre." There was much consternation and terror when the French took possession of the plaza at Puebla. Pobre Sedeño! He could hardly stand to see "su amada ciudad destruida, su catedral cerrada, sus amigos ausentes, los impios pros-

perando y el espectro del hambre cruel." There was a shortage of food in Puebla during the siege. After the surrender of Puebla Miguel and Pancho meet. Pancho has visited Eugenia. He tells Miguel of the news. "Genie te tiene en casa un regalillo que no dejara de agradarte; es hombre, y muy gordo y muy guapo; dicen que es el retrato de mamá. Nació el día de Santa Inés a la hora que cayó el bombazo en la casa." Pancho had barely secured food enough for Eugenia, the baby and himself. Everything in Puebla indicated destruction and disorder. The pieces of artillery were in pieces. The soldiers were practically without uniforms. The letter from General Ortega to Forey and Bazaine which surrendered the plaza follows: "Senor General: No siéndome posible defender más tiempo esta plaza por la falta de municiones y de víveres, he disuelto el Ejército que estaba a mis órdenes y roto su armamento, inclusa toda la artillería. Los individuos que forman este ejército se entregan como prisioneros de guerra. Jesus G. Ortega---17 de Mayo de 1863." Forey invited the Generals Ortega and Mendoza to dine in his company. Mendoza carried with him Miguel Olivos. Ortega begged to be excused because of his stomach ailment. On the 19th of May 1863 the French army made its entrance into Puebla. "/Qué sorpresa da a Forey! Ni una autoridad que le recibie; ni una mujer que le sonriera; ni un grupo que le aclamara." Only the clergy who sympathized



with the French welcomed them in the Cathedral.

## Volume II

The secretary of her Majesty, the Empress, invited Senora Jecker to lunch with Eugenia. She found there Hidalgo, Gutierrez, Aguilar and other Mexicans who desired the intervention of France in the affairs of Mexico. These Mexicans and the Empress placed themselves around a table. They were going to have a seance. They asked the table about the future of Mexico. If the table moved to the right it was an affirmative signal; if to the left a negative sign. The Empress asked: "¿Llegará a gobernar en México el Emperador Maximiliano?" The table inclined itself to the right as a sign of affirming. The question was asked: "¿Tendrá un reinado largo y dichoso?" The table as if attacked by a sudden convulsion moves toward the left so strongly that it was on the point of falling to the floor. "¿Cuántos años gobernará? ¿Vencerá a Juárez?" There folled a movement of denial. "¿Juárez le vencerá?" The table inclined itself toward the right in order to affirm the answer. After these series of questions everyone was silent. The Empress remained as if petrified. Hidalgo broke the silence saying: "¡Bah! ¿Quién se cree de mesitas ni de embelecos? Lo futuro solo Dios lo conoce. Estas son solo tonterías." The Empress replied: "Don't call them

tenteries. A table announced to me the death of my brother at Alba, and another table announced to me other terrible things." At this instant Napoleon entered. The party then went to the dining room where lunch was served. A tertulia was given by the Empress and Emperor that night.

A short time later the Mexican commission embarked from Paris to Trieste where their journey ended. Senora Jecker went along with the Commission. On the second day after arriving they rested, and the third was the day of the reception at Miramar. The Señora met a man at Paris, Gonzalez de Mendoza, who told her the need of her son-in-law, Captain Miguel Caballero de los Olivos. She responded by a gift of money to him. He replied: "No quiere nada de una afrancesada--de una traidora." Meanwhile the Commission returned from its visit to Miramar well satisfied. Some of these members of the Commission were Gutiérrez, Aguilar, Escandon, Murphy, and Miranda. There were such exclamations of enthusiasm from the members of the commission as: "Miramar y el tres de octubre quedarán indelebles en nuestra historia." The Archduke with all the air of a sovereign met the Commission at the door. Señor Gutierrez read his discourse. The appearance of the Archduchess Carlota was very beautiful. "Ella misma es un ángel." "La respuesta de S. A. ha sido la que debía ser: se' aguardar a que la nación confirme

el voto de la Asamblea de Notables; pero si este voto se confirma podemos contar con la presencia del nieto de Carlos V en nuestra tierra." The members of the Commission dined in the palace of the Archduke that night. Upon returning they described to Señora Jecker the dress of the Archduchess, her jewels and her hair dress. They described the service of the table, the silver, the music, the servants and the library. The thing that pleased the Commission more was the paseo por mar along the coast. From the sea they could see the image of the Virgin Guadalupe lighted with beautiful colors. The members of the Commission told the Archduke and Archduchess of the presence of Señora Jecker at Triest. They invited her to the palace. Maximilian greeted the party with well constructed Spanish but with a German accent. Maximilian was tall; his face was very white with a light paleness; his eyes were blue. His head had little hair. His beard was rather blond, as was his hair. The formation of the mouth and the teeth was the only thing that deformed that grave and manly appearance. These teeth were unequal and full of coffee stains. His mouth was wide with the lower lip hanging in a style like that of the House of Austria. Maximilian was thirty-three although he appeared to be of lesser age. In the conversation that took place the plan was suggested by some of the members of the Commission

that gradually, one by one, the South American states, Colombia, Venezuela and Guatemala would be asked to be under the protectorate of the monarchy founded by Maximilian I. During the course of the afternoon Señora Jecker was taken to see all the rooms of the palace including the drawing room of the Empress, where there were works of painting and sculpture. Carlota was a great artist. Just before lunch the Archduchess appeared. Then followed the meal. Carlota was tall, delicate, and well formed having beautiful and expressive eyes, white complexion and black hair.

Maximilian during these negotiations had received the plan of the National palace of Chapultepec. Maximilian considered reconstructing the palace that had been constructed by the Viceroy Galvez. Maximilian seriously considered withdrawing from the Mexican situation. At one time he uttered: "Habr  que renunciar a la empresa de Mexico. J arez, seg n parece tiene muchos partidarios; le sigue la mayor a de la naci n, y los monarquistas no son sino unos cuantos rezagados y ambiciosos, sin popularidad y sin prestigio." To this Carlota replied: "Dejad esas cosas, Maximiliano y medita despacio las respuestas, que hab is de dar a la comisi n Mexicana. Con corona y sin corone seremos siempre dichosos, y yo para m  nada deseo--nada. Pero para vos, Maximiliano para esa frente

pensativa y hermosa, para esa frente en que irradia el genio, yo deseo una diadema que por lo menos brille tanto como la de nuestro hermano. Yo también la ambiciono para vos, para que podáis lucir todas las excelsas dotes que os dió el Creador."

At the same time that Mexico was offering to Maximilian a crown, the throne of Greece was offered him by Queen Victoria. Maximilian considered the possibility of going to Greece. He exclaimed: /Qué bello mandar en un país que fué de dioses y que hoy es de héroes." Carlota discouraged this plan. She reminded him that Greece was a poor country whereas Mexico was a rich and large land, and that in Mexico he would be able to satisfy all his whims of an artist and a cultured man. Maximilian reminded her of the hopelessness of redeeming a country that has lived for forty years in war. Maximilian in the course of a conversation one day asked Señora Jecker about the plants and trees in Mexico. She replied that she knew of a plant that repairs the forces and returns the vigor lost to the most weak organism. Men are conserved eternally young and women are eternally fruitful. There are women that conceive and give birth at seventy years of age. The Emperor asked the Senora to write to her friends for them to send a specimen of this plant to him in order that he might study and analize it.

Maximilian was nervous in deciding what he would do. He smoked one cigar after another. There came for him one day the ratification by the people of Mexico of his cause. The dispatch read: "Todos desean salir de esta anarquía, todos quieren que reine el orden y todos le llamen con voces sinceras." There was another item of news along with this letter. The news that the family of Juárez had left for Saltillo and that Mejía was in Queretaro, Marquez in Morelia and Bazaine in Guadalajara. This news was sent by J. N. Almonte. At the beginning of February 1863 their Imperial Majesties left for Vienna, London, Brussels and Paris.

When Maximilian and Napoleon met, Napoleon exclaimed to Maximilian: "Os he tallado un imperio en una mina de oro." Maximilian and Carlota returned to Miramar where some days later they received the Mexican Commission again to give them their answer as to the Mexican adventure. It was: "No ire a Mejico." Maximilian explains that he is not able to undertake the enterprise. He tells the Commission that his brother Frantz Joseph, the Emperor of Austria, wishes that he renounce his rights as a Hapsburg, his rights as an Austrian, his rights as a man. "Tiene celos de mi; tiene celos de mi popularidad; del cariño que me tienen las gentes. Cuan caros trata de hacerme pagar los gritos de 'Viva el Archiduque Maximiliano, suera el Emperador!' con que me han saludado en las

calles de Viena. Pero no será, vive Dios; no será y no será." Carlota explained to the Commission that in case of the death or impossibility of the ruling of prince Rodolfo, that Maximilian had rights indisputable to the throne. Gutiérrez, one of the members of the Commission, kneeled before the Emperor, embraced his knees and asked: "¿Para que quiere V. M. trono en Austria, si cuenta con el que le alzaremos todos los mexicanos en nuestros corazones? A vuelta de algunos anos V. M. será el jefe de un gran imperio que nada tendra que envidiar en florecimiento a este ni a ningun país. No nos abandone V. M.; mire que en V. M. tenemos puesta toda nuestra esperanza."

Maximilian was not able to resist any more. He escaped from the room and returned in a little while more tranquil and serene. Maximilian announces to them that he no longer will say he is not going, but that on the morrow he will go on the ship Navarra to see the Holy Father, Pius IX and ask his advice. Maximilian decided to accept the offer and surrender all his rights. After the decision was announced a reception was held for the Mexicans in Triest. Maximilian was intensely pale. The Empress was serene and tranquil. Gutiérrez talked on behalf of the Mexican delegation, thanking the Emperor and Empress for accepting the difficult task of ruling Mexico. Maximilian responded that he would always have in mind the welfare of the Mexican people. "Concluire



Senores, asegurando de nuevo que nunca olvidaré mi gobierno el reconocimiento que debe el monarca ilustre cuyo amistoso auxilio, ha hecho posible la regeneración de nuestro hermoso país." At this moment three priests entered the room, one opening a Bible on which Maximilian placed his hand and took this oath: "Yo, Maximiliano I, Emperador de Mexico, juro a Dios por los Santos Evangelios, procurar por todos los medios que estén a mi alcance el bienestar y prosperidad de la nacion, defende su independencia y conservar la integridad del territorio." Gutiérrez immediately following the oath led the Mexicans in shouting: "¡Viva el Emperador. ¡Viva la Emperatriz!" Amid the rejoicing Maximilian was informed that the chief of his servants at Miramar had committed suicide by thrusting a dagger in his breast. Maximilian paled and uttered: "No es un buen augurio." He learns also that his old governess, the woman who has taught him to love the beautiful and all of the things associated with his early childhood, is dying. Maximilian begins to think: "¿Por qué he aceptado ir a regenerar a un pueblo extraño, a un pueblo distante, a un pueblo que no conozco ni me conoce? Maldita sea la ambición, todo el deseo de poder, la más horrible de todas las furias! Ayer todavía era tiempo de volverse atrás; hoy es imposible....La suerte está echada, y es la mala suerte."

On the 14th of April 1864 the citizens of Triest took leave of Maximilian. The preparation for the voyage had been made. Maximilian was pale, dejected and sad, with signs of depression. Carlota was serene and grave but completely the master of herself. The Archduke, Luis Victor, brother of Maximilian, accompanied him as far as Rome. The harbor at Triest was full of squadrons of all nations. The band was present bidding Maximilian farewell. The Emperor and Empress boarded the Navara. The Austrian flag was lowered and in its place was raised the Mexican standard. Maximilian stood on the deck of the ship saluting the multitude, receiving their applauses and their farewell cries. Maximilian then entered his royal bedroom crying like a child. Outside, the batteries of the coast were firing a final salute to the Archduke. Inside, Maximilian was lamenting his separation from the palace of Miramar, from the company of his friends, from the caresses of his people; whither was he bound? To death? To glory? No one knew then. After four days of sailing the Emperor and Empress arrived at the Vatican to see the Pope. The Mexican delegation attended mass. Maximilian and Carlota received the communion at the hands of His Holiness, Pope Pius IX. This saddened pope had suffered the loss of his patrimony and his estates were dwindling.

The spirit of God seemed to hover over that young pair and on that ancient Pope who invoked the name of the Almighty and solicited his benediction for one of the greatest tasks that could be undertaken. After mass was concluded there was served an exquisite breakfast. At the table of His Holiness there were seated only the Emperor, the Empress and Cardinal Antonelli. The others were seated at small tables near this one. Those present were admitted to kiss the anillo del Pescador on the finger of the Pope.

The Mexicans on the Novara on the voyage to Mexico were Velasquez, General Woll and Señora Jecker. The Emperor appointed the latter to attend to the arrangements for the dresses of the Empress and her ladies. On the 28th of May they arrived at 5:00 in the morning at the port of Vera Cruz. There was no reception for the future Emperor and Empress. Maximilian commented: "¿Así reciben en vuestra tierra a los Emperadores? No han de gastar mucho dinero ni mucho entusiasmo en ello." The Empress began biting her lips; her beautiful eyes were filled with tears. Maximilian was disappointed at the reception from Vera Cruz to Mexico City. He had been assured that his transit through this territory would be one of continuous ovation. The trip from Vera Cruz to Mexico City took three days by rail. Señora Jecker had a

brother and sister-in-law in Mexico that were still in the banking business. Señora Jecker was presented by them to their friends as the lady in waiting to the Empress. Maximilian and Carlota upon arriving in Mexico went to the Shrine of the Virgin Guadalupe to give thanks to the virgin for their safe arrival. This endeared them to many religious Mexicans who admired the Emperor and Empress for giving thanks to the Sovereign Author of all things. All of the balconies of the house through which Carlota and Maximilian were to pass were rented for as high as fifty five pesos.

The entrance of Maximilian and Carlota was proclaimed in Mexico with exclamations such as: "Viva Maximiliano, viva Carlota, viva nuestro Emperador." Aquiles Lapierre, the admirer of Señora Jecker, was in the procession. The day of the arrival of the imperial party in Mexico was on Sunday. There were cries of: "/Viva el Emperador y viva la Emperatriz!" As they proceeded farther into the city the cries stopped. Maximilian and Carlota, red from anger and indignation, saluted from right to left. Everyone responded to them by taking off their hats, but nothing more. Suddenly amidst the silence there was heard the lone voice of a woman: "/Viva el Emperador!" As if this were a signal, all the people shouted unanimously. There were demonstrations of enthusiasm. Flowers were given to them.

They marched to the Zócalo where they entered the Cathedral.

The neighbor of Señora Jecker was Don Alonso Colmenares. His wife was Doña Martina and her daughter the beautiful Nieves.

Many verses were published in the newspaper concerning the future of the Empire and the sovereigns. They were artificial and exaggerated. One of these verses is the following:

"La Patria se salvó! Maximiliano  
al empuñar en sus valiente diestra  
El pabellón que tremoló en Eguale  
Senda de gloria y salvacion nos muestra.  
/Lado sea Dios! Del turbio Bravo.  
Bobernando en Venecia por su hermano,  
Probo que sabe ser buen soberano.  
El Altar es apoyo del imperio;  
Hara no gima ya en el cautiverio.

A few days after the imperial entry into the city, Señora Jecker learned of her appointment as a lady of honor to the Empress Carlota. These ladies in waiting to the Empress had to be always at her disposition in order to go to mass or to accompany her in the carriage, on horseback or on foot, and also to read to her when she desired. These ladies were to live in the Imperial Palace; a carriage

of the court was always to be at their disposal. Don Antonio, one of the secretaries of the Imperial palace, gave Señora Jecker her instructions.

One night Señora Jecker was visited by her brother-in-law concerning their finances. Later her lover, Aquiles, arrived. When Aquiles learned of her position as lady of honor to the Empress he proposed that she renounce her position and the two of them go to some distant place where they would be away from compromises, difficulties, and honors.

Maximilian soon after his arrival founded the Orden Imperial de Guadalupe; both Mexican men and women were eligible to belong to this order. To be a member was a coveted honor.

Señora Jecker described her lover, Aquiles as "Aquiles de mi corazón, el ímán de mi alma." He secured a position as colonel of the guard of the National Palace. That day was a great day for the two of them. Aquiles had acquired a small house, out of the way, and incapable of being discovered by the most skillful. He had furnished it and placed it at the disposition of Señora Jecker in order that they might celebrate their interviews. Aquiles told her: "That it was poor and small but that it would be turned into a palace the hour that she occupies it." Senora Jecker

loaned her friend Lapierre 2,700 pesos. He gave his note with interest in exchange. In a conversation between the Emperor and Señora Jecker, Maximilian told this lady of the difficulties of the new administration. He told her that "all the men were inapt, all are traitors and all are thieves." Maximilian went on to relate that they found fault because he did not adopt the name of Fernando instead of Maximiliano because it sounded more Spanish. The clergy blamed him because he did not establish a blind and brutal reactionary movement in the church such as Torquemada would have established. Maximilian wanted to pursue a liberal policy.

The chief adviser of Maximilian was "un hombre que se llama Eloin." Señora Jecker took to this man a financial problem of her brother-in-law Jecker. He promised to aid her, if she would allow for him a place in her heart.

One day, the 24th of October, Señora Jecker and Lola Quezado accompanied the Empress to Toluca, the ancient capital of the state of Mexico. The scenery along the road from Mexico City to Toluca was beautiful. Carlota was going to meet her husband.

General Bazaine was made Marshal of the Imperial Army. Mme. Bazaine was a creole of Algiers whom the

General knew at a very early age. She was without parents and alone. Bazaine took her to a convent where she was educated. The child grew in body and in beauty. The general prized her and married her when she reached the age of a young woman. This young woman fell in love with a man who robbed her and exploited her. In order to keep the news from her husband she took poison. Now that his wife had committed suicide he had his eyes on a young Mexican senorita of sixteen years called Doña Josefa de la Peña y Azcarate. Marshal Bazaine was then forty-two years old.

Fiestas, leyes, conspiraciones de los conservadores, y derrotas de los liberales; a esto se redujo el imperio durante su corta existencia. Each time the liberals were defeated they came back stronger. Many of the conservatives in Mexico were alienated from Maximilian by his liberal tendencies. Among these tendencies was his announcement of the toleration of all cults, and of the maintenance of the Leyes de Reforma inaugurated by Juárez. There was continual conspiring in the Empire. The liberals conspired against the liberals and against Maximilian. The conservatives were alienated from Maximilian.

Some of the Republican chiefs were Porfirio Diaz, Zaragoza and Vicente Riva Palacio, the latter having



conquered the state of Michoacan.

Señora Jecker during a trip to the state of Michoacan was captured by a band of outlaws and held for a ransom. They demanded part of the treasures of the Empire to pay it. She replied to this: "No cuento ni quiero contar con nada que no sea mis propios recursos. Si ellos no bastan, me sujetaré a mi suerte." Later she escaped from their possession and fell into the hands of Nicolás Romero. Finally she contacts her daughter, Genie, who now has a son, Miguelín. She asks her mother how long she has been returned from Europe. The reply was more than a year. Josefina asks her daughter concerning her husband, Miguel. She replies that he is now in Oaxaca following the occupation of his obligation. After a short visit with her daughter she made preparations to leave for Mexico. At the end of her stay she became convinced that her daughter Genie was the exact reproduction of Doña Lorenza Olivos. There was no doubt of it. "Genie era Olivos; Olivos clavada, porque de Ubiarco no tenía ni pizca." The Señora liked her grandson. She liked to give him caresses. When she arrived in Mexico she sent him an excellent little machine which she had purchased for fifty pesos. Don German, the father-in-law of Genie, fell a prisoner to

the imperial forces. The Señora procured his liberty.

On the fourth of November Señora Jecker arrived at the court. During her trip to Michoacán she had disguised herself as a man; her nickname upon returning to Mexico was Don Gil de las Calzas Verdes. When she returned she found that Carlota had replaced another girl Pepita as her chief maiden of honor in her place. The Señora was sure that this was the work of her enemies. She wished for her lover Aquiles who could comfort her in her humiliation. The next morning following the presentation of Don Juan Tenorio in the Imperial Theatre, a judge and two lawyers entered the house of Doña Josefina Jecker. The Judge explained to her that His Majesty was determined to eliminate from government circles those persons who were traitors, and had authorized him to tell her that her position as lady of honor to the Empress was vacant since she did not occupy that place any more. The reason for all this was because Señora Jecker was in possession of jewels given to her by lover Aquiles. The Judge then insisted that these jewels were stolen ones and that she must have known it. Señora Jecker faced ruin, prison and even death itself. She spent many days addressing letters to the Emperor and Empress, Almonte and Bazaine. One night after she was already in bed the door of her room opened. She was frightened, but a sweet voice,

that of a friend spoke to her. "Levántese que deseo hablarle. Soy yo el Emperador." The conference lasted three hours. Following it the Emperor told her that he would pardon her, telling her that she had fallen in love with a man, vile, mean and perverse who did not hesitate to betray, but also that he was unscrupulous in mixing up her in his affairs. Lapierre intended to gain his pardon through the influence of one of the ladies in waiting to the Empress. "He not only has deceived a weak woman in love but he has deceived me, the Emperor. Since he was an official of the Mexican police he was in a position to know many things which he sold to the rival forces. He had also stolen valuable jewels from many high personages in the Empire and when he secured all that he could he left the country accompanied by his wife, Nieves, daughter of an old man called Don Alonso." Señora Jecker replied to these explanations that "No quiero posición en la corte, ni dinero, ni honra; quiero hacer ese bribón padecer lo que él me ha hecho padecer. Os lo ruego de rodillas, Sire---concededme la libertad para consagrarla---a esa obra de reparación, de justicia, de bien y de verdad." Maximilian then wrote a letter to Señora Jecker in which he praised her mission to Michoacán and of her

service to the Empress.

One day the news leaked out that Napoleon "no quiere que sus tropas duren aqui mas tiempo--va a menos el poder del Emperador. Bonaparte tiene ordenado ya cuando han de salir las primeras tropas." The Empress returned from her trip to Yucatan around the first of the year 1866. Señora Jecker and a group of ladies met the Empress at San Martín Texmelucan. From there they went on to Cuernavaca where they learned of the death of King Leopold, the father of the Empress. It was the third of January 1866. The Empress became sad, meditating upon the death of her beloved father.

Opposition to the French Intervention in Mexico was voiced by the opposition in the French Chambers and by the United States. The new king Leopold of Belgium had sent to Mexico a special mission charged with carrying the account of his exaltation to the throne. Six Belgians composed the mission. When they left Mexico they were pursued by bandits, one being killed and all the others seriously wounded. This caused tremendous pain to the Empress. "/Dios mio!" exclamaba, "/Que van a decir de nosotros en Europa, que va a decir mi hermano?" Carlota would sit hour by hour at the window gazing at some distant object. It was finally decided that Carlota should go to

Europe. To accompany her was Señora Jecker. On the sixth of July Her Majesty attended for the last time the Cathedral. The ninth of July they left for Europe. Mass was said at 4:00 in the morning at the Basilica de Guadalupe. The Emperor accompanied the Empress and her party as far as Rio Frio. There with many tender signs of love he took leave of her. On the road to Vera Cruz the Empress demanded of the coachmen to know the place in which her compatriots had been attacked. At seven that night they arrived at Puebla. The next day they left for Vera Cruz arriving at Orizaba at 11:00. On the 13th of July at 2:00 in the afternoon they arrived at Vera Cruz. The Empress would not embark on the ship Imperatriz Eugenia until a French flag was hauled down and in its place was replaced the Mexican flag. The Empress was preoccupied and not her real self on the trip to Europe. She had dreams of plots to assassinate the Emperor. She was sleepless. Upon arriving in Paris the disgust of the Empress was enormous. There was no reception. It appeared as if no one knew of the arrival of Carlota. There was not a single sign of respect and acclaim that had been so tremendous at another time. The party of the Empress resided at the Grand Hotel. The interview of Carlota and the Emperor Napoleon was at 9:00 one morning after

her arrival at Saint Cloud. Hour after hour passed and there was no end to the interview. Finally the ladies of the Empress resolved that she should have her glass of orange juice which she drank at 12:00 every day. There came from the room the voice of Carlota which was angry and afflicted. Within another half hour Carlota left with more evidences of anger than she had ever shown. Carlota spent many days visiting and receiving visits from ministers, writing and telegraphing messages. One day following an interview with Napoleon Carlota was a nervous wreck calling for water or cognac. She accused Napoleon of falseness, of deceit. He had said that he owed more to the country and to the Chambers than to the Mexican cause. "Y no recuerda el tratado de Miramar; y se atreve a calificar de inhábil al Emperador y habla de abdicación. ¡Bellaco! Creo que mi marido está modelado a su imagen y semejanza; se figura que puede un Hapsburgo abandonar su puesto a la hora del peligro. Maximiliano no desertará nunca; morirá y morirá en su puesto, y con el morirse yo, y moriremos todos los leales, todos los buenos, todos los honrados!" Carlota continued talking of Maximilian. She had visions of him dead. "Sabedlo, sí; vuestro hijo no reinará, porque si reinara no existiría Dios, y vos pagaréis por su crimen de haber mandado

a la desesperación y a la muerte a dos infelices que no han tenido culpa que creen en vos!" It so preyed upon the mind of the Empress that she fell into convulsions. When the doctor arrived she was still without speech and movement. Before she retired Carlota repeated at intervals the thought which dominated her mind: "Ni un franco ni un hombre. Morirá Maximiliano y yo moriré con él." The Empress remained in bed for three days more and on the fourth she got up in spite of the protests of the doctor and prepared to march to Rome and see the Holy Father.

On the road to Italy the Empress came to her senses. She astonished her listeners by her observations concerning the people and things of Mexico, with her knowledge of its history. But one morning her whole aspect was changed. She appeared violent and excited. She wished to fling herself from the mule; she talked of dying in the canyons below. Upon arriving at a hotel in Italy where the band was playing the French National Anthem, the Marseillaise, she exclaimed: "Francia, Francia, exclamó anegada en lágrimas, que mal nos has traído. ¡Bellaco! y no cese un instante. Voy a decirle que se calle." She obtained an interview with Pius IX. On one of these interviews with the Holy Father she

showed increasing signs of losing her mind. When she returned that night everyone knew definitely that that must be the case. She would exclaim: "¡Dios mío exclamó, que tristeza sentirse rodeado de espías, de enemigos, de traidores, cuando se creía contar con amigos." She thought that she had been poisoned in France, that some poison had been put in her wine which she drank in the palace of Napoleon. "Su Majestad está atacada del horrible delirio de persecución y no es fácil recibe la salud en mucho tiempo. Dios salve a la Emperatriz." After her visit to Rome she arrived at the castle of Miranar.

Señora Jecker took leave of the maddened Empress at this palace and returned to Mexico. Her first thought was to seek an interview with Maximilian. The Emperor was ill. His face was thin and yellow. His eyes were surrounded by circles. It was pitiful to see him. Maximilian seized the hand of Señora Jecker saying: "Cuéntemelo usted todo; ¡Qué desgracia, que gran desgracia!" Maximilian had already heard it rumored that the Empress was losing her reason. He exclaimed: "No puedo; no puedo imaginar a la Emperatriz sin juicio y sin entendimiento; no será la Emperatriz; no será mi adorada mujer; ella que tenía la inteligencia más lucida y más firme convertida en idiotismo."

The motto of Maximilian throughout this crisis was:



"Un Hapsburgo no retrocede nunca a la hora del peligro."

At one time, to the contrary, Maximilian said when asked concerning abandoning the throne: "La Emperatriz desolada y falta de razón me llama a gritos desde Europa: 'Prepara la maleta, que pronto recibiré la orden de marchar.'" But Maximilian did not decide in this manner.

At one time he commented: "El hombre de dos de diciembre se figura que estoy muerto y enterrado."

The liberals now began to realize that the Empire was falling. It was decided that Marquez and Miramon should form two armies. Before the fall of the Empire Maximilian delivered in his own hands a check to Señora Jecker saying to her: "Ya lo he dicho; un verdadero Hapsburgo no retrocede a la hora del peligro." He told her that if the Empire were saved that both would return to Europe on a visit to see Carlota.

Maximilian finally had to leave Mexico City for Orizaba. "Ya se acabó el imperio."

### VOLUME III

The two brothers Pancho y Miguel Olivos were aids to General Porfirio Díaz. Among the leaders of the various divisions in Mexico, one was commended by the author of Pan y Cebolla; other authors were with the Republican forces. Just as Puebla had fallen, Oaxaca fell too. Among the battles and skirmishes between the French and Mexicans Pancho Olivos received a wound from which he lay ill for three months between life and death. As he was recovering one day in the patio of the house where he had been residing he thought of his general, his companions, and his friends; then he remembered his parents, and finally he remembered his enamorada, Violette. "Todo el mundo se habrá olvidado, ya de mí, pensó; todos me creían muerto, todos se habrán conformado y si acaso me lamentaran un poco de vez en cuando. ¿Qué habrá sido de mi general? ¿Caería en manos de Ortega? ¿Moriría? ¿Seguirá triunfando? ¿Y dónde estará mi hermano? ¿Y mis padres? ¿Y Violette? ¿Me habrá olvidado?" As soon as he recovered his health enough to travel he found his General Porfirio. He then determined to find his sweetheart, Violette. This girl was delicate, pale, blond, serene, having beautiful eyes and marked feminine grace. Upon the arrival of Pancho in Puebla these lovers had unforgettable interviews. They made

oaths, promises, and severe reproaches. The father of Violette, Campardon, told Pancho when he asked for his daughter in marriage that he was not old enough nor had resources enough, but he told them that if they had the desire to be married for them to go ahead, that he would wash his hands of the affair. The father soon became reconciled to the marriage. At 11:00 one morning in the humble little village church a native priest united the lovers. They appeared happy, solemn, and satisfied. Pancho continued his services with the army.

Demonstrations against the French began to multiply. There were prolonged cries of "Viva Méjico, viva Porfirio, viva la libertad!" In one of these battles between the Imperial Forces and the Juárez forces under Porfirio Díaz the son of General Forey was killed. His dog remained with him guarding his body. The papers found upon the body identified him. They were taken together with the dog to the French minister in Mexico to be delivered to General Forey.

Another important general of the loyal forces was don Felix Díaz, brother of Porfirio. Finally in these sieges and battles the city of Oaxaca was taken by the Republican forces. After the capture

Pancho received a promotion to the rank of Colonel.

In the famous battle dos de abril, 1867, Pancho Olivos was killed. Porfirio Díaz, his chief, in trying to draw his friend back to consciousness talked to him thus:

"Pancho Coronel no es nada. Pancho, amigo, pobre amigo, pobre amigo de mi alma! Soy yo, tu jefe, tu general, Porfirio." The dying one grasped the hands of his General and expired. Porfirio commented: "Era el más fiel de mis amigos, Coronel Caballero de los Olivos."

In a series of letters written by Eugenia and Miguel to each other they expressed concern for the other's welfare. Miguel learned of the imprisonment of his father because he refused to obey a French command. During the four years of absence of Miguel, Eugenia remained with her mother and father-in-law, Doña Lorenza and Don German. During most of this time Don German had been in prison. Many times during this period Miguel would become jealous of his wife. Eugenia writes to Miguel telling him: "Todas tus cartas y sobre todo la última, tan impertinente, tan ofensiva, y tan indigna de ti, de mí y de nuestro cariño."

## Volume IV

The constitutionalists under Juárez gradually conquered provinces farther south from Paso del Norte where Juárez had established his capital. No one can imagine the immense animation and enthusiasm that reigned in San Luis Potosí during the days in which was established there the constitutional government. From San Luis Potosí it was just twenty leagues to the city of Mexico. The loyalists in Mexico City realized the coming danger and many fled to the Juárez stronghold of San Luis Potosí. Juárez now moved his capital to this city. The potosinos of the elevated class were not in sympathy with the Republicans, but with the present Mexican Empire. The liberal forces that had been forced to move to the north of Mexico during the beginning of the French Intervention now began slowly to move southward due to the weakness of the Imperial forces. Many of these places of refuge were Chihuahua and Monterrey. As the troops of Juárez moved southward they were greeted by such exclamations as: "Honor a Chihuahua que no ha omitido sacrificios para defender a la República contra el invasor que pretende dominarla." Juárez would respond to this enthusiasm: "Yo aquí veo la patria, y ante ella protesto que todo sacrificio es nada, que el sacrificio de mi familia sería mucho para mí; pero que si es

necesario sea." Many banquets and receptions were given the loyal troops by these cities. "¡Viva, viva el señor Juárez!--que viva el señor Presidente!" Throughout the period of the Intervention the government at Washington sympathized with the Mexican government under Juárez at Paso del Norte.

The last of these four volumes is in the form of a play with five acts. The principal person in the drama is Maximilian. Márquez, jefe de Estado Mayor, Miramón, jefe de la Infantería en Querétaro, Tomás Mejía, jefe de la caballería, ministers of Italy, Belgium, Prussia, Tomás O'Horan, Comandante de la Plaza de Mexico, Doña Concepción Lombardo de Miramón, Inés, princesa de Salm-Salm, Josefina Fernandez de Ubiarco, Eugenia Ubiarco de los Olivos, Don Benito Juárez, General Don Porfirio Díaz, jefe del ejército sitiador de la ciudad de Mejico, y Miguel Caballero de los Olivos were all the characters.

The scene occurs in the city of Querétaro, Mexico and San Luis Potosí from February to June of 1867.

The first scene represents the house of a priest in the village of Tlalnepantla. The Emperor is having breakfast in company with Marquez, the Ministro Aguiere and Dr. Basch. Maximilian is just finishing his last draught of wine. Upon seeing the priest enter, Maximilian gets up respectfully and kisses the hand of the priest with affection. The priest expresses the desire that they

have breakfasted well. Maximilian replied that all the food was tastefully prepared. Marquez, who was of low stature, delicate and nervous, had a coarse and imperative voice. Aguirre explains that the period of the Empire had been an age of independent and social guarantees, an epoch of just equality. Maximilian entered into a review of the history and the nature and the enjoyment that the priest must obtain from his surroundings, from the beautiful tress that resembled those of the forest of Chapultepec. He seemed to be lost in a dream, reviewing the history of Mexico from the time of the conquistadores and Cortes. Maximilian talked Spanish with a German accent that sounded as if he had secured his knowledge of Spanish more from books than current conversation. The party decides to leave, Maximilian telling the priest good-bye and asking him to remember him to the Virgin in his prayers. The priest says good-bye with the words: "/Viva el Emperador!"

The second scene occurs on a road of Calpulalpan. On this road they were attacked by liberals, who had united their troops on this road and there followed an engagement between liberal and imperial forces. Maximilian showed signs of great valor.

The third scene is in the surroundings of Queretaro where the Imperial forces are concentrated. This city was in the shelter of the Sierra Madre range. Near

Queretaro is the Cerro de las Campanas. In the square of Queretaro Miramon asserts to the people that he will reconquer the country and execute his old deeds.

Escobar comments: "La posteridad dara con justicia a vuestra Majestad el título de Maximiliano el Grande."

The fourth scene was a conversation between Maximilian and his aids. Marquez was telling the Emperor that what they had heard in the capital concerning an organized resistance between Juarist forces was not true, but that they were only bands of evil doers who lived in a state of anarchy. Marquez suggests to Maximilian that he examine well the people who are serving him in the Imperial Army. Maximilian replied: "¿Qué decís general? ¿Acaso estaremos rodeados de traidores? ¿Pensáis, general, que Miramon podria intentar algo contra mi persona?" Marquez replied that "Miramon es leal; ha abrigado con amor la causa del Imperio; mas es tan ambicioso, tan vano, tan amante de la jacara y del bullicio." He comments upon Mejia as being un hombre de oro. Maximilian praises Marquez as being "el diplomático mas diligente de mi imperio."

In the fifth scene Maximilian is in a library and looking through an eye glass at the surrounding city. The generals and commanders of Maximilian's army are gathering in this room. One was Tomás Mejia. Another was the Principe Salm-Salm, an Austrian of thirty years who has a monocle which he removes from his eye at each



instant. Maximilian sits in front of a large table; the others are placed in this manner. Márquez at the right of the sovereign, at the left Miramón, Mejía in front, Salm and López on the extreme ends of the table. There was continual conflict and jealousy between Márquez and Miramón. Miramón reminds Márquez that he had been general of his division long before Márquez was. Maximilian begged them to concentrate their attention upon the aim of the future campaign. They discussed every proposed plan. The plan of Márquez was to close the Imperial troops in Queretaro and prevent its capture. Maximilian agreed to pursue the plan of Márquez and left him in complete command. Miramón protested saying: "Sin embargo, Sire, vos sois el jefe del ejército." The reply: "Es claro, Miguel, es claro; pero yo, en mi calidad de marino nada puedo decir de operaciones a tierra." Miramón talks again displaying his jealousy. He explains to his Majesty Maximilian: "Si vuestra Majestad se hubiera dignado dar oído a mis pobres consejos, quizás a estas horas no existiría ni rastro de los juaristas; pero como se atuvo más bien al dictamen de personas cuyos conocimientos no disputo pero cuyo lealtad desconozco, las cosas han marchado de manera distinta que debieron." Maximilian replies that he believes that Márquez is an excellent and very loyal friend. He says that he has only three things in mind: The triumph of the cause, the annihilation

of the evil ones, and the pacification of the country. Miramón is vexed.

Meanwhile Josefina de Ubiarco had come to the city of Queretaro to visit hospitals and to care for the wounded. She had been appointed by the Emperor. Among her trips to the hospitals she discovered a "perfect type of masculine beauty." It was her old lover Lapierre. He had suffered for more than a year with a disease called elephantiasis, manifested in his case in a swollen leg. He tells Josefina now that he is a miserable creature with diseased and deformed legs. He no longer has his youthful figure. His head is completely bald. He tells her to remember the entrance of the Emperor into the City of Mexico. "Yo, galán, enamorado y satisfecho deseoso de conquistarla, tú, bella, graciosa, elegante; más tarde te fuiste a recorrer Michoacán, a buscar la huella del dinero que ambicionabas. Te falté, no lo niego ni lo quiero negar; que otros me acusen y me juzguen, que yo estoy dispuesto a sufrir tus reproches; pero déjame pensar que no me acusas tú, a pesar de todo el mal que te he hecho." Lapierre goes on to state that she is able to perform for him one more service and to that of her daughter, Genie. He tells her that Miguel is a prisoner here and that he is jealous and thinks that Eugenie has been unfaithful to him. He asks her to bring this husband to him in order that he might

explain that she only befriended him. He begs her to go for Miguel. Josefina then asks Lapierre about his marriage and his flight. He replies: "Josefina, mi escapatoria es el gran crimen de mi vida; la desgraciada Nieves murió al dar a luz a un niño. Dios es justo; acabó con el imperio de mi pobre amo."

A cell of the Convento de la Cruz is occupied by the Emperor. The furnishings of his room were reduced to a wooden table, a bed of iron and a wash-stand. On the table were some books written in German. It was midnight and Maximilian was impatient and sad, meditating. His appearance was neat. As the scene begins, López, his faithful servant enters. He asks him: "¿Qué os había pasado? Me tenéis en continua tortura, pero si la suerte quisiera que fueras víctima de una bala o de una enfermedad, vuestro pobre Emperador no tendría consuelo; se le acabaría el único amigo con que cuenta, su única esperanza en la tierra."

The Imperial forces were being defeated. They were fewer in number and lacked the courage and strength that the forces of the Republicans had. López explains to Maximilian that there is hunger among the troops, that the mules are being killed in order that their flesh may be eaten. Maximilian exclaims desperately that "la traición nos acecha, nos vigila, cuida nuestros pasos, se introduce en nuestra casa y está en el pan que comemos y en el

aire que respiramos, en la sangre que circula por nuestras venas." López explains the situation in these words: "Hay miserias, faltas, deslealtades." He goes on to explain that Mejía and Castillo are in alliance with the loyalists to deliver the whole plan of the Imperialists over to the enemy. "Los dos están en tratos con un jefe republicano para vendernos a todos." Maximilian replies that "estamos perdidos sin remedio y solo queda marchar al sacrificio; estoy resignado."

## Jornada II.

It was the night of the fifteenth of May. The republican and imperial forces are sleeping after the contests of the day. There continue two weeks in which the Imperial forces lose battle after battle. Maximilian is beginning to realize that his cause is lost. López, his faithful friend, proposes to him that he try to escape and that he will aid him. Maximilian replies: "Un Hapsburgo no retrocede ante el peligro. ¿No sabéis lo que significa tener en las venas sangre de Hapsburgo? Ni casa ya era conocida en Europa en el siglo VII y en ella no se ha oído hablar sino de ilustres ejemplos y de altas virtudes." López begs him: "Sire, por Dios, dejaos conducir, dejad, que os lleve donde no seáis la víctima del rencor de los republicanos. Sire, ved que os lo suplico de rodillas." A few days later Maximiliano was taken prisoner by Ramón Corona. "Sois el prisionero

de la Republica." Maximilian was then delivered to D. Mariano Escobedo. Maximilian asked him: "¿Me permitira usted que, custodiado por una escolta, marche hasta un punto de la costa donde puedo embarcarme para Europa, con la protesta que hago, bajo mi palabra de honor de no volver a Méjico?" Escobedo answers: "No me es posible conceder lo que usted pide." Maximilian unfastened his sword and presented it to Escobedo. Maximilian was taken prisoner to the Convento de la Cruz.

Maximilian in his cell one day is visited by Josefina Ubiarco. He is seated on his humble bed. Josefina tells him that she is glad that he is sound and well, since she has heard so many rumors. Maximilian tells her that he plans to go back to Europe to the palace of Miramar and to take her with him. Josefina expresses the wish that his existence there will be more happy than it has been in Mexico. Maximilian replies: "Ya lo creo que lo sera, dedicado a las ciencias, amigo y protector de las artes, ejerciendo la caridad, el amigo y el padre de los vecinos de Trieste."

A few days later after the capture of the Emperor his trusted General Méndez is executed. The liberal forces allow him to visit Maximilian before his death. He is perfectly resigned to die. "For mi fe, mi patria, y por mi Emperador." Maximilian hears the shots that announce his execution. Josefina leaves the prison.

She visits the hospital of the republican forces and there sees Miguel Olivos, who tells her upon being asked concerning his family. "M hermano murió hace pocos días en Puebla, feliz él; ya difunto se ciñó la banda, la banda de general. Era un hombre, todo un hombre." Josefina asks Miguel if there is some way in which she can obtain the pardon of the Emperor. Miguel replies that he does not wish such a pardon. He says that the Republicans have pardoned too many people. "Correrán torrentes de sangre, y en ellos quizás se ahoguen muchas damas de honor, muchas canallas y muchos tramposos. La República necesita empaparse hasta las rodillas en sangre de malvados."

### Jornada III.

The scene is the prison of the Emperor in the Convento de las Teresitas. There are present Maximilian, la princesa de Salm-Salm, the prince, her husband and Dr. Basch. The Princess of Salm-Salm, Agnes, is a beautiful American woman. Her skirt is torn, her hands are full of scratches, her hair is disarranged. All of the conversation between the three is in German. Maximilian inquires of the state of his dear Mexico. Agnes replies that Mexico City is occupied by the army of Porfirio Diaz. The princess tells of a dream she has had which predicts the future of the Emperor. The three go to see Escobedo, having been given a permit to do so. Maximilian tells

Escobedo that: "Mi mayor deseo es tener una conferencia con don Benito Juárez. Claro que no volveré; todo cuanto arreglemos sera sancionado por la reina Victoria que es mi prima. Seguridad, seguridad absoluta por la Republica." Escobedo replied that he would have the justice that the law afforded. The Emperor replied: "¿Una tribunal de militares para juzgar a un Emperador?" Maximilian asks Escobedo for a new prison. Maximilian is conducted to the Convento de las Capuchinas.

Josefina Ubiarco and Agnes, princesa de Salm-Salm, are waiting in the outside office to see the minister, Iglesias. Both are trying to procure the release of the Emperor and the prisoners at Queretaro. Iglesias replies concerning the case of Maximilian that: "Del tribunal que le ha de juzgar depende la resolución de este grave asunto." Agnes asks Iglesias: "Señor Ministro, Y no podría ver al Presidente?" The answer was doubtful. Josefina, herself, says to Agnes that she shelters little hope for the fate of the Emperor.

The fifth scene of this act takes place in the office of President Juárez. There are present Agnes, Josefina, Juárez and Iglesias. Juárez comes through a door with a serene and tranquil aspect. The two ladies kneel momentarily at the feet of the President. This disgusts Juárez, such actions being contrary to his Republican tastes and inclinations. Agnes replies to the President



in this manner: "No me alzaré, no me alzaré de aquí, señor Presidente si antes no me ofrece usted que dará satisfacción a mis pretensiones." To this Juarez replies: "Si lo que usted pide es justo, se concederá aunque esté de pie, si es injusto no lo acordaré aunque usted permanezca de rodillas un año entero." Juarez repeats that the law will take its course. Agnes in trying to persuade a change in his policy goes on to say: "Señor Juárez, El Emperador fue llamado por la nación, fue arrancado de su retiro, fue engañado por los hombres del partido conservador que le aseguraron que la nación le llamaba." The interview was terminated by Juárez.

The Princess and Señora Ubiarco go to the prison de las Capuchinas de Queretaro. Agnes upon greeting the Emperor falls fainting into the arms of Maximilian. The scene ends with the two trying to bring her to consciousness.

Meanwhile Josefina Ubiarco goes to the City of Mexico and is found in the home of Eugenia and the parents of her husband. Eugenia is a beautiful woman, with lovely eyes, a spotless complexion, and small and delicate mouth. Eugenia loves Don German and Doña Lorenza as if they were her own parents. She does not love, nor has she ever loved, her mother Josefina.

Now in Mexico City the Consejo de Ministros is meeting in the Imperial Palace. There is being discussed a plan to defend the plaza of the city. There are present



Marque<sup>z</sup>, Lares, Portilla, Vidaurri, Lacunza and Tomás O'Horan. This last person was rather inconsistent in his ideas. He had liberal views but he also sympathized with the Imperial side; whichever side would offer him the most was the side he chose. After attending this meeting in which the military plans were discussed, Tomás O'Horan arrived for a conference with Porfirio Díaz. This is his promise: "Yo, yo mismo, Tomás O'Horan, me comprometo a entregarle a usted la plaza de Mexico con todas sus adherencias, con todos los que están adentro, lo mismo conservadores que liberales." Porfirio replies that he has come to offer him something he already has. O'Horan asks in return for this betrayal of the Imperial forces his pardon by the Republican forces. Porfirio told him that he would carry the case to the President Juárez. They take leave of each other.

Josefina arrives to see her daughter. She tells her how exhausted she is with traveling through enemy soldier lines and having conferences with liberal leaders. When Eugenia learns from the lips of Josefina that Lapierre is in Queretaro she determines to go with her mother to see him in order to satisfy the jealousies of her husband. Eugenia rushes to the interior of the house to see Dona Lorenza telling her: "Mama<sup>z</sup>, mamacita de mi alma; me marcho a Queretaro a ver a Miguel; yo estoy todo arreglada, y ya esta<sup>z</sup> todo listo."

The seventh scene takes place in the cell of the Emperor Maximilian in the convento de las Capuchinas. He is sick from the terrible dysentery. There come to see Maximilian el Barón de Lago, Mexican minister to Austria, and several other gentlemen. Maximilian hopes that it is news of the pardon or of a prepared flight. Maximilian during the course of the conversation tells of his will, how much money he leaves to his followers and his property and possessions. At this instant while in the midst of dictating his will a messenger arrives bringing this news: "Su Majestad, La Emperatriz acaba de morir en el castillo de Lacken." Maximilian drops into a faint. When he recovers he utters: "Justicia de Dios. Era el único lazo que me sujetaba a la tierra. En el cielo ha de estar, allá ire a buscarla."

#### Jornada V.

In this act there is unrolled the last and agitated days of the life of the Emperor Maximilian, who becomes sick, sad and dejected. Princess Salm-Salm is telling the Emperor: "Sire, la fuga sin remisión porque de otro modo somos perdidos." She tells the Emperor of the plan that they have made for his escape to the coast. It is estimated that 5,000 pesos will be necessary in order to work out the salvation of the Emperor.

The scene changes to the hospital of the wounded soldiers. There are present Lapierre, Josefina, Eugenia,

and Miguel. Lapierre tells Miguel that his jealousies have been unfounded; that the relationship between Eugenia and him has been honorable. He wants to clear this matter before his death. The scene ends with Miguel taking his wife Eugenia in his arms, smothering her with kisses.

Meanwhile Agnes was giving a reception for some Republican chiefs; among them was Palacios. She tries to persuade him that the Emperor should be pardoned. Agnes tells Palacios: "Usted ha llenado una vida de penas y dolores y bien merece una recompensa; si usted me ayuda a salvar al Emperador, yo le aseguro a usted una fortuna." The Imperial House of Austria will give you 100,000 pesos in order that you and your wife and son may live in Europe, tranquil, knowing that you have been the savior of a poor and weak victim." Palacios replied to her: "Estimo mi nombre y mi suerte en una suma mucho mayor que ésta." Agnes replies: "Ah usted no quiero dinero; usted no desea prosperidad ni bienes materiales; comprendo que usted quiere amor; amor puro y constante. ¿Quiere usted amor? Pues aquí está el mío." She throws herself into the arms of the Coronel, and begins to undress herself throwing her clothes on the floor. Palacios replied to her that it was the first time in his life that he had been obliged to flee from a woman. Palacios escapes, as Agnes falls in a swoon.

The place for the trial of Maximilian, Mejía and Miramon was the Teatro de Iturbide. The lawyers for Maximilian were Vázquez and Ortega. In the cell of the three prisoners Miramón tells the priest that he is ready to die; that he has written his wife, his friends, and his lawyers. He thinks of his son, Miguel and of his wife, Concha. "Pobrecitos niños, pobrecitos, sin padre que les proteja, que les quiera y que les aleje de los peligros. Parece ayer cuando yo, en loca ambición creía ser el dueño de Mexico y ser el dueño del mundo. ¡que locos; ¡que locos somos!" Maximilian enters. The conversation continues with Maximilian asking the question: "¿Y creéis que nos fusilarán?" Miramón replies: "Sire, desde que caí en manos de esta gente no he llegado a dudarlo ni un minuto. Es la suerte de la guerra." Maximilian becomes pale and escapes into his own cell. El Padre Guevara besieges Miramón to: "Piense usted en Dios; piense en el Supremo Bien, piense en la otra vida."

Meanwhile in the cell of Mejía a plan is presented to him by Escobedo by which he might obtain his release. He tells his jailor: "Moriré por ese hombre (Maximilian) o me salvaré con él." Escobedo embraces him and the two depart: "Hasta la otra vida."

The scene changes to the office of Don Sebastián Lerdo de Tejada, minister of Exterior Relations. Doña

Concepción Lombardo de Miramón is talking with him trying to secure the pardon of her husband. She argues with Don Sebastian in this fashion: "Pero eso es cruel, bárbaro, inhumano! ¿Cómo creer que se arrebate un padre a sus hijos, un marido a su esposa, un servidor a su patria; solo porque profesa opiniones contrarios de Juárez?"

Meanwhile in the office of President Juárez Riva Palacios is appealing to the President: He tells him that he knows that all of those present are Republicans, but that he believes that the "Muerte de Maximiliano significara nada menos que el descrédito de México." Juárez tells him that he will allow the law to take its course.

The scene changes to the cell of Maximilian. He has just finished his correspondence. Among these letters is one to his mother. The priest, el padre Sora, is reading a passage of scripture. They discuss religious matters and the glory and power of God. On the day of the execution of the three, Maximilian arose from his bed at 3:00 in the morning. His personal servants, Grill and Tudos cared for his person and combed his hair. At 4:00 mass was said by padre Sora. Accompanied by three priests they move toward the Cerro de las Campanas.

Meanwhile Josefina, Eugenia and Miguel are attending the last moments of the life of Lapierre. While they are attending the sick one there are heard three shots; these are the ones that end the lives of Miramón, Mejía

and Maximilian. Josefina murmurs: "Ya todo acabó. / Que horrible desgracia!" Miguel exclaims: "Ya está satisfecha la justicia." At this instant Grill and Tudos, the servants of the Emperor, arrive. Josefina begs them to tell them of all that which had happened. Grill tells them that they have come to look for doctors to embalm the corpse of the Emperor, and asks them where they will be able to find one. Grill feelingly attests to the nobility of the dead emperor's character: "¿Podrá encontrarse en el mundo un príncipe más liberal, un caballero más honrado, un amo más bondadoso, un hombre más discreto y un amigo más leal que lo que fue el Emperador?" Just five weeks before the shooting of Maximilian he had surrendered his sword to General Corona. From his cell in the convent to the Cerro de las Campanas huge crowds followed him and Mejía and Miramón; some were curious; others were sympathetic. The three were lined up; Maximilian in the middle, Mejía on his right and on the left Miramón. The three embraced each other. Maximilian asked some of the regiment from where were the soldiers that were going to shoot them. He found out that they were from the battalion of Nuevo Leon. The Emperor delivered to each one of them un maximiliano de oro. He pronounced a few words telling of his love for the Mexican nation and took his place to die. Miramón said a farewell and then the shots rang out killing Maximilian and his friends.

Miguel commented upon Maximilian in this manner:

"Fue un filibustero y un usurpador; quien tal hizo que tal pague."

## CALVARIO Y TABOR

### La Flor de La Costa

It was an afternoon of January. The sun was sinking slowly behind the immense mass of water that is called the Pacific. The breeze caressed the tall and gracious tops of the palm trees. Some huts formed of wood and covered with thatch looked out toward the ocean. Small columns of smoke escaped from the roofs and there could be perceived sometimes voices and songs accompanied by the notes of a harp. On the coast everyone sings. It is impossible to travel on the sea shore looking at the ceaseless movement of the water, and listening to the eternal rumor of the waves without feeling inclined to lift one's voice in that concert that the infinite offers to God. There walked along one of those paths leading south from the woods and in the direction of a very pure spring, a young girl of fifteen years. She was tall, well-shapen and graceful. Her eyes were large, black and brilliant. Her eyelashes were long and curled. A white shirt waist whose sleeves and neck were formed of lace and a simple blue skirt formed her dress. On her throat she wore a necklace of gold, and on her hands she wore rings of gold with pearls and corals.



She was without doubt a daughter of a rich family, for all the women of the coast worked. This one carried on her head a pitcher that supported itself without the aid of the hands of the young maiden. The young girl continued on her way singing heppily. Her tune was one of those languid and melancholy songs. She stopped momentarily to answer the salutations of some young men, who were returning from their work, wearing large sombreros of palm, and wide trousers. There swung from their left side cutlasses of great length. Alejandra was the girl's name. She paused to talk with an old lady who was filling her pitcher; the latter's name was tía Ursula. She explained the reason she was early in carrying water today because she was going to pray to the Santos Reyes. "Cuando Andrés, mi marido, murió me encargó que nunca dejara de rezar por él." The two mount the hill together, Tía Ursula telling the girl that she had something to tell her before she died that Don Plácido, the girl's father could not hear. She promised to tell her on the following day.

The house of Don Plácido contained three rooms, a granary, a kitchen and a room for the clothes of the women. The men slept in a hall adjoining the rooms. In this hall there were suspended four or five hammocks. They were a great luxury to the

inhabitants of the coast. In one of these hammocks there swung lazily an old man of lofty stature, with an aquiline nose, and brown eyes. His appearance indicated resolution and cunning. He had been an old soldier. He was smoking a long cigar, submerged in a deep meditation and as he swung he seemed to contemplate the rings of white and blue smoke that came from his cigar. At the foot of the hammock there lay a magnificent dog. As Alejandra entered, the dog advanced moving his tail happily in greeting to her. The girl was the darling of that family. She filled the water vessels in the house and as she finished, her father summoned her to his side. Juana, the old servant, who was sitting near the hammock entered the kitchen to prepare the meal. The father told her that she should sit in the adjoining hammock and pay attention "porque voy a contarte una historia triste para los dos, pero no me interrumpas porque tan vez no tendría valor para concluir." The girl kissed the hand of her father and sat down.

#### The Crime of a Veteran

He tells the following story of how fourteen years ago he lived in Acapulco. He had just asked for his discharge from military service and as he had not decided the new kind of life that he was to adopt he passed the day conversing with friends, and the

night playing cards or engaging in dances. From a very young boy he had followed the career of arms. The war of independence had enthused him. He had served under the independent leader, Morelos. After forty years of adventure and fighting, he returned to Acapulco, his native land to await the death that had not found him on the field of battle. There was in Acapulco at this moment Juan de Jarras, a man around thirty years old, who lived peaceably on the products of his small orchard and did not mix in groups of amusement. Juan was married to a mulatta who worked very industriously and did not go to the village for anything. She lived in the little house near the orchard, dedicated to domestic works and the education of a little girl almost two years of age, who was the fruit of this honorable marriage. Juan came every third day to the market but always left early and never had been intoxicated. One night as Don Plácido returned from a dance he discovered Juan de Jarras drunk for the first time. The occasion had been the birthday of one of his friends. Don Plácido conceived the idea of playing a joke on Juan. He asked his servant, Andrés, who was the husband of Tia Ursula, to secure some blood for him. There was none in the house. He went to the corral and killed a little lamb and returned with the blood which was placed on the right arm of Juan. They completed the act by placing

a knife in his hand. When he awoke from his spell, Don Plácido resolved to tell him that he had killed a prefect of justice and that he had stumbled to his house and that he had given him protection. Poor Don Juan asked him what he must do. Don Plácido suggested that he flee and be gone for a period of time and then return. He promised to provide for his wife and daughter during his absence. Juan left and after his departure the graveness of his act weighed upon the conscience of Don Plácido, who spent day after day trying to find Juan. Having no luck he visited the house of Margarita and her child. Margarita was sad and could hardly believe the story that her husband had gone on an unexpected voyage. After eating one night, he gave Margarita some money, kissed the child and felt more tranquil in mind. There was much concern as to the disappearance of Juan. Many theories were advanced as to his leaving. The authorities questioned Don Plácido but he told them the same story that he had told the wife, Margarita. No one knew of the truth of the disappearance of Don Juan except Don Plácido and Don Andrés. Don Plácido told Alejandra that Don Juan had not been heard of yet. Alejandra asked her father what became of the mother and daughter. Margarita disappeared after leaving a letter in which she charged Don Plácido with the

care of her daughter. She had gone in search of her husband. To the question of Alejandra: "¿Y dónde está la hija?" Don Plácido replied: "Hija mía, hija mía esta niña eres tú." The young girl gave a cry and fainted into the arms of the veteran.

In this village of the coast, Tío Lalo was the most industrious and most intelligent blacksmith of the village. When the sun arose in the morning he was already in his work shop. Small columns of wood sustained a roof of palm, a forge and an anvil. Tío Lalo was like a picture. Never could there be noted a change in his dress. He wore trousers of blue cloth and shoes of yellow leather. His shirt was always clean. His work consisted principally in making cutlasses and repairing old ones. The forge of tío Lalo was a place where the idle of the village went to kill time by contemplating those that work. A boy of fourteen assisted the smith. A discussion was started concerning Alejandra. One of the talkative idle said: "Colasa, mi mujer dice que hasta muy noche oyó que lloraba Alejandra y que su padre la consolaba." A little later there arrived in the shop Padre Bernal, the friar associated with the priest of the village. A son of Tío Lalo took the reins of his mule. The boy who worked for Tío Lalo was called Cacomixtle. He was questioned by the loafers

around the shop about the business his master had with the priest. He replied that he did not know and told them he was going to the orchard to rest awhile, as it was almost time for lunch. He slipped as quickly as he could and without the slightest noise to the garret of the house. He stretched his body out full length and placed his ear near the cracks of the crevices of the wood to listen to the voices of the two men below him who were the priest and his master, tío Lalo. The conversation made clear the following points: Tío Lalo had promised the padre to deliver Alejandra into his power and for that the priest had given him money. The priest explained: "Necesito tener en mi poder a esa muchacha, y tú te has comprometido a entregársela; pues bien, ¿que te detiene? ¿Qué te falta?" The smith called his wife, Ramona, whose mien was repugnant. She was to go to the house of Alejandra on the pretense of borrowing a water pitcher. Her purpose was to find out what had been happening in the house. The old lady departed on her errand; the two men remained absorbed in their thoughts. Padre Bernal broke the silence with this petition: "Tío Lalo, es preciso que esa muchacha venga a dar a mi poder; cien veces te lo he repetido, cueste lo que cueste." The reply was this: "Y yo le he dicho a usted que aunque la cosa no es tan sencilla como parece, yo me comprometo, a entregarle a usted a esa criatura."

The two took a drink; the priest reclined on a bed and awaited the return of Ramona. The smith returned to his work but not as soon as did Cacomixtle who returned like a flash of lightening and was already at his work when the smith returned. The smith watched impatiently for the return of his wife. Finally she appeared on the horizon. The smith entered the house to hear the news that Ramona had gathered and Cacomixtle took his place at his observatory where he could hear and see all.

Alejandra did not hasten or hurry to her planned interview with *tía* Ursula. The old lady made repeated trips to the river to secure water, and had everything in her house filled with it. Finally she saw Alejandra, *la flor de la costa*, as the boys of the village called her. The maiden did not go happy and singing as she did on the previous afternoons, but she was melancholy and distracted. Alejandra explained to *tía* Ursula that she was ill and had scarcely slept any the preceeding night and that her head pained her. Alejandra told the old lady that on the morrow they had to leave for Morelia where her father was to attend to important business. *Tía* Ursula insisted that before she leave she must tell her something and that it must be now. The two sat down on the trunk of a palm tree. *Tía* Ursula

asked the girl the question: "¿Tú sabes Alejandra quien eras tu padre?" Alejandra replied that she knew it all. The old woman explained that her husband was good, and that he was not able to remedy that which had happened, but that before he died he had told her a secret that she was to tell Alejandra in order to remedy part of the evil which he had perpetrated innocently. Tía Ursula tells Alejandra that her husband Andrés had served in the wars of Independence. One day while he and another soldier were pursuing the Spanish troops they discovered six or eight mules laden with money which they confiscated. Because the troops discovered their loss and were on their heels, they turned into the woods near a river where they buried seventeen sacks of the money. The location of the place where the money was buried was as follows: It was at a position on the river bank where there stood an immense ziranda, and at each side of this tree there grew a huge palm. After they had buried the money they resolved to lift a huge rock on top of the excavation so they would have another mark of identification. As they started to lift the rock a viper bit the hand of the companion of Andrés, who proposed that his hand be cut off immediately. The companion agreed, but because the cutlass had been



dulled in the excavation work, one blow of it on the rock they had tried to move was not sufficient to separate the hand from the arm. After several blows the hand was removed, but already it was too late. The poison had spread all through the blood of his body and within a few minutes he expired amid frightful agony. Andrés left the corpse and never returned. When he died he charged his wife to tell Alejandra of this money in order that she might try to recover it. After the completion of the story, Tía Ursula embraced the girl who was to leave on the following morning.

Very early the next day Don Plácido, Alejandra and his servants mounted on mules and left the village. As they were marching tranquilly all absorbed in their thoughts the mule that Don Plácido was riding stopped suddenly. There were heard some shots in the distance. Don Plácido fell to the ground immediately just as four mounted horsemen arrived on the scene. These were armed with cutlasses and guns and their faces were covered with black silk handkerchiefs. They seized Alejandra who was on the point of fainting.

Zitacuero was situated on a chain of mountains in the state of Michoacan. It was a charming city of 8,000 inhabitants. Its streets were straight; its

houses although not elegant were clean and pretty. Its business was active and its agriculture flourishing. This was Zitacuaro in 1863. The Republic of Mexico had been invaded by the French. Evil Mexicans had united with them. The legitimate government abandoned the capital after that glorious epic that is known as the siege of Puebla. The army of Napoleon occupied the states and the villages without resistance. That was the triumphal march of iniquity. The martyrs of liberty found a calvary in the mountains. The faithful troops of Toluca looked for an asylum in Zitacuaro. Many of the inhabitants emigrated northward to the states north of the capital. This was a tender and sublime spectacle. Mothers carrying children, men carrying part of their household goods together with burros, sheep, chickens, and pigs. They were all in one immense confusion, but without cries, without sobs, without curses, with the resignation of martyrs but with the energy of heroes. The year when this story begins is in January 1865. In a house of this city there was gathered around a table a group of military men of the Republic. They complained of having no cigars. One of these three young men was Jorge, who loved Alejandra. He expressed his desire of returning to his native land. As they were talking of various things, there was heard the arrival

of horses; all stood and in that instant the celebrated Nicolas Romero entered the room. This "león de las montañas" as the French called him was a man of thirty-six years. He had a good appearance, although common. He was dressed in black and did not wear spurs, sword or pistols. He did not appear to be the man full of valor and courage that he was. Nicolás Romero was respected by his own soldiers and by the enemy. He sat down at the table, ordered food, and ordered one of his colonels to gather the troops in the plaza. The army slowly filed out of the city that night. They rested the next morning around 10:00 in a rancheria called Papasindau. Jorge and his companion, Murillo, lay down upon their serapes, Jorge saying: "No lo dudes, solo el cariño que tengo al coronel, me hizo no pedir licencia en Tusantla, pero estoy muy triste, no tengo ni la menor noticia de Alejandra; anoche la soñé y antianoche, y creo que siempre la sueño." Jorge confides to his friend that he believes something bad has happened because there has been a stampede of horses, and he believes that that is an omen of misfortune. Also he remembered the night that he slept in Tusantla a night-taper flew around the shoulders of Nicolás Romero until it stopped on his hat. Suddenly in the midst of their discourse a part of the imperial cavalry invaded the Republican camp. No one thought

of resisting; panic and surprise took possession of all and the enemy killed many Republican soldiers. Jorge was wounded, but escaped. When he recovered consciousness he was not able to remember what had happened. He raised his hand to his head, and found its back covered with blood. Then he understood it all. The saber of a soldier had caused a deep wound and he had fallen at the side of the road. They believed that he was dead, and did not bother to trouble with him. He realized that the French were not yet gone. A group of soldiers passed by and he was pointed out by one as the one whom he had killed. After he was sure that all the French had departed he entered a woods in which he wandered and discovered a French camp in the forest on a hill. The woods was thick and he was able to listen and observe without being seen. He was able to hear their laughter and their songs of triumph. The soldiers were preparing a meal. He departed from his position near the Imperial camp and wandered many miles into the forest. There were birds of all kinds that sung and flew above him. Finally the birds began to make the noises and agitate their wings as they do when a man is arriving. Jorge realized that some one was approaching. He hid behind a rock. His friend, Murillo

appeared. Jorge emerged from his hiding place and the two friends embraced, crying in each other's arms. Murillo exclaimed to his friend: "Jorge, tú estás herido, ¿en donde? ¿Estas muy malo? Dime, siéntate, te ayudaré. ¿Dónde está tu herida?" Jorge replied that it was in his head. The two marched to a stream, where Murillo dressed the wound. The operation was long and painful. It was nightfall when he finished. Hunger was beginning to devour the two men but they said nothing. The two talked of how they had escaped from the French. Murillo insisted that his friend sleep while he watched. The night had in the woods noises and misterious harmonies. Birds sang to the shadows, stars and the moon. Reptiles hissed among the foliage, and insects buzzed in the darkness. The sounds that God produces upon the earth are magnificent. Atheism is impossible in the woods during the night, as it is upon the sea. A graceful deer drew near to drink from the stream. Murillo shot it; he then made a fire and roasted parts of the deer.

The scene changes to an inn where we find Margarita, the mother of Alejandra. The story of how she happened to be there is as follows: One day a very poor and tired mulatta came to a ranch to ask for lodging. This ranch had belonged to an old married couple. She became ill there and remaining had gained the affection of the

pair until after one had died and then the other, and not having children the couple left everything to her as their heir. Margarita was now proprietor. She was only thirty-two years old, and still conserved the grace of youth in spite of her trying experiences. She had not a single wrinkle in her face nor a white hair in her head.

"Muchos rancheritos habían bebido por ella los vientos, pero ninguno podría gloriarse de haber obtenido ni una esperanza." One day near this village a negro heard the laments of a man crying; the negro with his dogs approached and found Murillo and Jorge. Jorge was without consciousness and was delirious from fever. Murillo had been pursued by a tiger, which he finally killed. The negro questions the two men. He is told that they are members of the defeated army of Nicolás Romero who is a prisoner of the French. The negro tells them that he is able to carry them to the house of senora Margarita. The two march to the house carrying Jorge.

#### El Lobo y El Pastor.

The scene changes and takes us back to the village of San Luis where we first met Alejandra. There is a fiesta going on and a fandango. Among those at the fandango are tío Lalo, his wife, Remona, Cacomixtle and padre Bernal. While tío Lalo was observing the dancing, padre Bernal tapped him on the shoulder, and the two

retired a short distance from the fiesta where they talked of a plan by which they could steal Alejandra from Don Plácido on the road to Morelia, as they were on their road on the morrow. Cacomixtle followed them as usual, and unobserved heard their plans. He then carries his information to the curate. The priest had a sister, Senora Joaquina who was a very lovable woman. This priest was fifty years old; his sister was sixty. No one could doubt the relationship because of the similiarity between the two. Cacomixtle tells the priest that "la señora Ramona llevó la razón de que don Plácido salía con la muchacha Alejandra manana muy temprano por el rumbo de Morelia, and entonces el tío le dijo al padre que era buena oportunidad de quitar a la muchacha, y que él se comprometía a dar el plan, pero que el padre buscara unos hombres que no fuera del pueblo para desempeñarlo." After the boy left, the priest and his sister talked about Padre Bernal, Alejandra and Jorge. Jorge was away in the war. Señora Joaquina expressed her sentiments with the following statement: "Malvados franceses; Dios les castigue por esta guerra." She began to cry. The priest told her: "Cálmate, cálmate, y ten fe, que Dios nos ha de traer buena y sana. Cuando nos le dieron en Tacubaya, que yo era vicario, y tan pobre, estaba él (Jorge) tan enfermo que tu creías que se moría, y no teníamos ni para el médico; y Dios le salvó. Cuando

le envié a estudiar a los Estados Unidos lloraste mucho; y Dios le trajo. Ahora será lo mismo. Con que no llores y vamos a hablar de Alejandra." At this moment don Roque, a friend of the priest entered and told him that the "plan was to kill Don Plácido and take the girl Alejandra to Cuernavaca." The priest then told him that it was necessary to have four or six boys on the road they were to take in order to avoid such a mishap. The six men under don Roque were late in leaving there and Don Plácido was already on the road to Morelia. Don Plácido was severely wounded and Alejandra was taken prisoner. Don Plácido was brought back to the house of the priest. He was exceedingly pale and covered with dust. He was put to bed; the wounds were dressed by the sister, Joaquina and Don Roque. An old lady who was a half wit, bordering on idiocy called "La Guacha" had lived in the village for six years. She had no food, shelter or clothing and no one to care for her. The priest gave her an abandoned hut and furnished her with provisions. Sometimes many months passed and she was not seen on the streets. She appeared in the room of the wounded man, Don Plácido. Shortly after there came into the door padre Bernal who asked: "¿Puede pasar?" The priest answered: "Espéreme usted afuera un momento en la otra pieza." As the priest entered the



room in which Padre Bernal waited, the idiot came to him and said: "Ese hombre (Padre Bernal) no es sacerdote; ese hombre es un criminal, un malvado; cuídese usted señor cura porque es serpiente." "¿Pero cómo?" answered the priest astonished. La Guacha replied: "Después le hablaré a usted; pero si dude, pregúntele usted a ese hombre si conoce a Celso Valdespino." The priest hesitated a minute and left the room. In the conversation between Padre Bernal and the priest they talked of the misfortune of Don Plácido and the abduction of Alejandra. "Alejandra era la futura de Jorge, nuestro hijo adoptivo, y yo estoy seguro de que no tenía amores con nadie; el interés del muchacho me hacía vigilarla cuidadosamente." In the conversation padre Bernal asked the priest to be permitted to go to the Indian village near Texca to say mass. The priest now realizes the situation and tells Bernal that "el pueblo ha comenzado a murmurar y hay quien se atreve a suponer que usted, Dios me libre de creerlo, es el autor del rapto de Alejandra." Bernal became intensely pale, and began swearing his innocence. He tells the priest that regardless of what the people think that he is the sacred priest, Padre Bernal, and that he has received letters from Mexico addressed to him. The priest exclaims that these letters were directed to Padre Bernal and that he is Don Celso Valdespino. The false one turns into a savage; he becomes so mad that he appears

to be crazy. He tells the priest: "Tú sabes mis secretos; bueno, pero yo te cortaré la lengua, yo te impediré que lo digas." He drew from his cloak a dagger, and made a movement toward the priest. At this moment don Roque appears, holding a gun on Celso, exclaiming: "Yo, yo soy el que voy a matarle, tigre malvado, asesino, raptor, falso sacerdote. Yo, pero cuidado no te muevas. Llama ahora a tu tío Lalo, a tu herrero, Infame! /De rodillas!" The curate intervenes in begging that he not be shot. He addresses the infamous one: "Salga usted de aquí, don Celso, y póngase en marcha para México inmediatamente, si no quiere ser víctima de la indignación pública."

Alejandra was forced to ride on horseback she was being taken prisoner by a group of men who continually looked back and saw pursuers following them. Alejandra at each time she saw the pursuers realized that they were coming for her and she received new hope. In order to slow down the pace of those that had kidnapped her, she conceived the idea of falling from her horse; she thought perhaps that they might abandon her. The execution was as rapid as the thought. Alejandra fell so hard that her head struck against a rock and she remained without consciousness. Perucho was at the head of ten men that were following the abductors. As

the trail became closer and closer to the pursuers, Alejandra was abandoned in the middle of the road. "Está usted libre Alejandra." It was already getting dark. She breathed a sigh of relief to be away from those "malvados." After walking a long distance she heard the barking of a dog. She walked farther and farther and eventually found a village. Upon entering the village she noticed four persons in front of the house eating. The first pair was composed of a man of low stature of advanced age, with a happy and expressive face. The woman near him was middle aged with a few grey hairs. The other pair was composed of a beautiful young girl with dark hair and eyes. The tall young man near her was her husband. He appeared to be a Hercules in bronze. Near them slept a small boy of two years. The old ones were the parents of the young couple. The two men were "marameros." The young man's name was Diego and his wife Anita. This family carried all of its possessions with them. Rito and Tula were the old couple. As the men had gone to care for the animals, they had found Alejandra tired, hungry and fainting. They carried her to the house, gave her some bisquits, cheese and water and asked her her name. Alejandra liked her new found friends. She told them the story of how she happened to be there. Anita explained to her

that they were poor rope makers who were going to the fiestas of San Jeronimo in Cuernavaca. They asked her if she had relatives in Mexico or Cuernavaca. To this she replied: "Por ninguna parte; soy sola en el mundo; ni único amparo era mi padre y le han matado," y Alejandra se puso a sollozar ocultando el rostro entre las manos. Alejandra was put to bed. The next morning it was decided that she would continue with them to Mexico. She knew that if she were in San Luis she could find shelter in the home of Tía Ursula but she was far from there and to return was difficult. Anita travelled on foot, her mother and Alejandra riding the mules. Alejandra appeared more tranquil. She had found protection. That family was for her not only material and moral consolation but the link that united her again with the world of good and noble hearts. Alejandra was somewhat reconciled. After she had ridden for four hours she insisted that Anita mount her horse and let her walk. At 4:00 in the afternoon they arrived at a village where a feast was celebrated. The village was full of flowers and statues of saints. As they arrived the curious gathered around them. Rito had gone to ask the alcalde for a place to lodge that night. He decided that they could lodge in the Casas Consistoriales. It was decided that they would give a function which consisted of rope walking

and other perilious acts. They dressed in colorful costumes for the performance. Anita was dressed as were the dancers in the theatres. She was beautiful and charming. Tula and Alejandra mingled with the crowd in order to observe the function. Among that crowd Alejandra saw padre Bernal. A ray of hope illuminated her soul. She thought that perhaps she might be able to return to San Luis with him and to live with tia Ursula and Señora Joaquina, who had always shown for her so much affection. Bernal or Don Celso arrived at this instant at her side and pretended to be ignorant of the disappearance of her father and expressed astonishment at seeing her there. He told her that he planned to return to San Luis that night and that she might return with him. "Hoy me vuelvo para San Luis aprovechando la luna y el fresco de la noche para caminar; con que tú quieras, hija mía, te llevaré." She accepted. Don Celso was happy. He was going to have Alejandra in his power. Tula asks Alejandra if she has thought the matter over carefully. She replies yes. "El Padre Bernal sirve como de vicario en mi pueblo." Tula tells her that the face of this man has not pleased her. She advised her that she consult the men before undertaking the voyage. Tula tells her "este viaje no me gusta; ese hombre me repugna." Just as Alejandra was putting her foot in

the stirrup, an alcalde approached and arrested Don Celso for the robbery of a girl and for the killing of her father. Alejandra gave a cry and fell into the arms of Diego and Anita. With the statement: "Maldita sea mi suerte," Don Celso trampled the alcalde under the feet of his horse and escaped before he could be stopped. After Alejandra recovered consciousness they ate their dinner; they were more tranquil. Alejandra had been saved from an immediate danger. Her friends had earned twelve pesos for the performing of the function; after eight days of traveling Alejandra and her protectors were in Cuernavaca. They planned to rest for a few days before undertaking their voyage to Mexico City. Just before their arrival a group of soldiers confiscated all of their belongings that they could use, horses, burros and the two men Rito and Diego were forced to join the imperial army. The three women cried, and Anita embracing her son in her arms, and carrying what they considered necessary and leaving the rest in the middle of the road ran after the troops. They left behind them all the worldly possessions they had in the world. It was not much, but it represented a treasure, a mine to those poor people.

The scene changes back to the home of the curate and San Luis. Don Plácido, the wounded man, was asleep.

Señora Joaquina was seated on a chair beside the bed. At the other extreme end of the room the priest was talking with the woman, "La Guacha." She took from her bosom a bundle of papers and with their aid she told the following story: "I was born in Mexico. My father was an employee of the government and earned a modest salary. My life was tranquil and almost monotonous. I learned to read and write. Occasionally I would go to the theatre with my father. At nights my father read while my mother listened while she sewed at some pieces of clothing. My father was much older than my mother. When my mother was thirty my father was seventy-one. She was beautiful and so well conserved that many thought that she and her daughter were sisters. One day upon returning from mass the daughter observed that there followed her an elegant man who had been seated in the church near her. The next Sunday the same thing happened. One night as my father was returning, the servant announced that a gentleman wished to speak to him. The man of the church entered the room. My mother and I left. An hour later my father entered the bedroom and announced: "Matilde, el señor viene a pedirme tu mano." I was astonished. Father told me that he had told the gentleman that I was free to pick my husband. The gentleman spoke for himself with these words: "Me

llamo Felipe Mondragón; soy rico, comerciante; tengo treinta y dos años; yo soy sin padres ni parientes, y la quiero a usted mucho. Usted me conviene para esposa y será mi mayor felicidad el poderla llevar al altar." My reply was this: "Señor yo necesito pensar, si usted quiere, pida permiso a mis padres para visitarnos y le trataré y le prometo dar a usted una respuesta."

The promise was given inside of eight days. Mondragon came to visit the house every day. He was recognized by the family as an honored man; within two months we were married. My husband was rich and very well received in the good society of Mexico. He had coaches and luxuries. He attended balls, tertulias and theatres. The two of us lived happily, and Mondragón was, with each day dearer to me. One day there came from Queretaro a nephew of my father's who was an orphan. He was called Celso Valdespino. He was a young man of twenty-three years of age; he was robust, humble and respectable. He lived an exemplary life scarcely going anywhere. My father took him into his house. During this time I had had a girl and a boy which pleased my husband and me. One morning my mother came to my house and told me how she had been wronged by Don Celso. "Estoy perdida; Don Celso es un infame." I realized immediately what had happened. It was arranged between the mother and



daughter that they would go to an hacienda that Felipe owned and within six months after their departure a beautiful girl was born. Within another month they returned to Mexico City. Both my mother and I realized that it was necessary that don Celso leave the house.

"A pesar de todo, mi madre le amaba, le amaba con delirio; jamas me lo habria confesado pero yo le habia descubierto en sus palabras, en sus turbaciones, en frases que habia escuchado." Don Celso entered my room one night and told me that he loved me. He threatened to tell my father and my husband of the unfaithfulness of my mother if I did not submit to him and be his. To disgrace my father and cause his death I could not do. Don Celso told me that he had no love for my mother. She became jealous of me, and wrote numerous letters to him. Finally I realized that I was going to become a mother. I decided that it was the best thing to submit to the plans of Don Celso and save my mother and father. He carried me away with him. I took the children with me. We lived in a house in Mexico City. All of this time Mondragon trusted don Celso. Within six months I gave birth to a boy who died upon being born. Don Celso climbed to a place of importance in Mexico, but his private life was scandalous. He had many prostitutes who came to the house at night. He became very cruel to me. This was the feeling I had

for him: "Cuando estaba a mi lado, cuando se acercaba a mí, sentía yo hacía él un odio profundo; pero cuando se alejaba, cuando alguna de aquellas mujeres llegaba a verle, cuando oía yo sus alegres carcajadas en medio de sus orgías nocturnas, entonces el veneno de los celos abrasaba mi corazón; entonces sentía yo que le adoraba." One night Don Celso awaited an individual, making me go to my room. Plenty of liquor was on the table. I was determined to spy on them, and find out who this expected person was. When the woman entered the room she was entirely veiled. I discovered it was my mother. I had entered into this relationship thinking to save my mother. My sacrifices had been sterile. I left that house forever, and I followed from that part of my life to this a series of uninterrupted scandals. I had lost completely the shame and the respect for society. "¿No era yo para el mundo un cadáver, y para la religión una alma perdida?" Finally I came begging from one house to the other, until God gave me shelter here in this hut with you." La Guacha, fatigued, inclined her head and two tears fell from her cheeks. The good priest cried also; he placed his hand on that of the poor one and told her with a voice of emotion: "Matilde, ten esperanza y fe en Aquél que nos ha enseñado a que todo pecador alcanza su misericordia."

### La Voz de la Historia

Nearly two months had passed from the imprisonment of Nicolás Romero, and the wind of misfortune continued beating the forces of the Republic. Oaxaca had fallen into the hands of the enemy. Porfirio Díaz was a prisoner. The situation of the Republican army was terrible. The forces of the Republicans totaled 2,000 men. They lacked proper clothing and artillery. They received no salary except a piece of meat and some corn tortillas. The Republican forces were more like martyrs resigned to sacrifice than warriors encouraged by the breath of victory. All of these men were pale and sick. On their marches one was able to follow the road by the bodies of men and animals who had died of hunger and thirst and often fatigue. The Republicans had been driven from the stronghold of Michoacán to the department of Huétamo. When one division of soldiers was conquered and killed new soldiers came to group themselves around the flag and there were new sacrifices and new fights to enrich the history of Mexico and to convince Napoleon, Maximilian and France that if a people fought in that manner for its independence it was an invincible people; it was a people worthy of being free.

The scene changes to the ranch of Margarita at the foot of the Torres de Cucha. Jorge was convalescing.

He was seated in the shade of a tree. He meditated perhaps of Alejandra or perhaps of Murillo, his companion in arms. The interior of the ranch presented a sad aspect. A woman and man were seated on the floor watching the convulsions of their two small children that were victims of the poison of a scorpion. This family was one that had been obliged to flee from its home because they differed with the men of the Intervention. The two children died; six hours later the unhappy mother was completely insane and the father weeping over the bodies of his two children. A few hours later the Imperial forces descended upon the ranch of Alejandra; they were angered by a shot fired by a negro upon their troops. Jorge, Vasquez and "la loca", the parents of the dead children and Margarita fled to the woods and watched the Imperial troops as they burned the buildings.

Meanwhile in the Imperial camp in which Rito and Diego had been made to enter as soldiers an interesting thing had happened. Marquez, the general in charge of the division, had taken a fancy to Alejandra and had found her one day alone. He told her: "Alejandra, te amo más que a mi vida; puedo hacerte feliz, puedo sacarte del estado en que te encuentras; te haré mi mujer me casaré contigo." Alejandra's answer was no. Just as she thought she was lost as Marquéz

seized her hand, two hands of iron seized the general by the shoulders and threw him out of the house. It was Diego. After Marquéz came to, he cried: "Miserable, ¿te has atrevido a poner las manos a tu superior? Puede costarte la vida." Diego was arrested and carried to the prison and charged with "insubordinación y disciplina militar." When Tula and Anita returned, Alejandra bathed in tears, told them what had happened.

Meanwhile Jorge, Margarita and Vasquez had united with the Republican army. It was decided that Margarita should enter Zitacuaro in order to spy on the Imperial forces. She sold bottles of wine. She entered the quarters and the houses of the chiefs everywhere. They talked of the execution of Sargent Diego Alva that was to take place the following morning at 9:00. Margarita decided that in order to better understand the movements of the Imperial army that it would be a good plan to ask for lodging in the home of the one that was to be executed. She found the house where the three women, Tula, Anita, and Alejandra were praying. There she learned that they had no hope for Diego; since they had spent all the day kneeling before the chiefs and begging for his life, they had not received one ray of hope. Alejandra was profoundly sad. Anita would pass to the bed of her child saying: "Hijo mío, exclamo precipitan-

dose a una camita en donde dormía el niño, hijo mío ésta es la última noche que tienes padre, mañana ya serás huérfano, pero tu no entiendes, no sabes lo que te pasa, angel mío; mañana no se atrevió a decir 'fusilar a tu padre.' Margarita was overcome by the grief of this family and she told them "oigan ustedes lo que voy a contarles; pues bien, no será, porque a la madrugada los liberales deben atacar a Zitacuaro; lo sé porque vine a explorar." Rito and the three "se arrojaron delante de Margarita, como si ella les trajera la salvación y entonces comenzaron a llorar de placer." Rito accompanied Margarita to the Republican camp. The next morning no sign was given of the Republican forces. The three women were beginning to think that this woman had deceived them. They went to the square where the prisoner was brought from his cell. At this instant a horseman entered the city crying: "El enemigo, el enemigo." The alarm was frightful; the confusion amounted to disorder. Nearly all the Imperial forces fell prisoners, so rapid was the descent of the Republicans. The triumph had been splendid and Diego left the prison in the arms of his family. He clasped his child in his arms, saying: "Lo que más me atormentaba, no era que yo iba a morir, sino que Anita y este pobre niño se quedaban sin amparo, y que después de todo, Alejandra se

quedaba a merced de ese infame Capitán Marquéz." Jorge and Murillo were with the Republican forces. After the surrender of the city Murillo and Jorge planned to go to Mexico City in order to carry letters and instructions to try to save the life of Nicolas Romero. In Mexico City there were doctors and medicine to cure the wound of Jorge. As they were leaving the city Alejandra was at the window and saw them go by; she cried: "Jorge, Jorge." But he did not hear her and marched on. She was happy in knowing that he lived. The next day Alejandra, Anita, and Tula left for Tacambaro, after Diego had taken a position in the Republican forces. Margarita who had been under the same roof as her daughter and had been at her side without knowing it took leave of them in the plaza of Zitacuaro, giving her caresses to Anita who was deeply grateful to her. For Alejandra she had only a simple salute.

Many of the victories of the Republicans such as the surrender of Zitacuaro proved to be only temporary. These combats were sterile generally. Their results were the protest of a nation against the plan of enslaving it. They were a tribute to the honor of Mexico--that it would not succumb without combat. It was the proof of its misfortune but not its degradation.

#### La Familia de Murillo

Don Bartolo de Murillo was a Spaniard, old, rich,



and honored, who had been living in Mexico from the year 1825, and occupied a beautiful and magnificent habitation in the street of Cadena. The family of don Bartolo was composed of his wife doña Guadalupe, his son Eduardo and a precious daughter called Elena that was the jewel and the adoration of the family. Around the fire Doña Guadalupe and her husband were conversing while Elena was half asleep on the sofa. The mother was saying: "Otro día que se ha pasado sin que tengamos noticia de Eduardo." Just as the family was going to dinner around 10:00 two strong knocks were heard on the door. As the door opened two men entered the patio. One was Eduardo. "Mi hijo" gritó doña Guadalupe. "Eduardo!" exclamo Elena. La Señora Murillo cayó casi desmayada de emoción en los brazos de su hijo, besos, lágrimas, suspiros, y ni una palabra. Don Bartolo y Elena por un lado, y Jorge por otro contemplaban también llorando aquella escena." After the three had embraced him all of the servants led by the ama de llaves cried as they held Eduardo to their breast. For everyone in the house Eduard had returned from a voyage to the United States; only the family was in on the secret. "Padre," dijo Eduardo, "le presente a usted a mi amigo Jorge; él ha sido para mí un hermano, un compañero inseparable. Viene muy enfermo. Tiene un sablazo en la cabeza que



casi le dividió el cráneo." After the dinner Edward kissed the hands of his father and the forehead of his mother and sister and retired to his room conducting Jorge. The next day as they went down to the dining room after a good night's sleep they wore "elegantes trajes que habían sustituido a sus pobres ropas de camino, y cada uno de ellos era un guapo mozo." Jorge received the first treatment from a doctor. He appeared the cultured individual that he was. Jorge had pursued his studies in a college in the United States. To Elena he appeared so handsome that she was not able to take her eyes from him during meals. ¡Que simpático! pensó Elena; y luego dijo a su hermano: "Tu amigo parece triste." "Sí, está enamorado," said Edward. "No pensaré más en él, pensó Elena, y sin embargo, pensaba." Jorge sonaba con Alejandra. Elena pensaba ya en Jorge.

The following day Murillo and Jorge went to see a friend of the general that had sent them. His name was Don Juan de Caralmuro. They had letters and papers for him. He was trying to secure the release of Nicolás Romero. "No nos queda más recurso que trabajar con Maximiliano; para obtener el indulto." As they left they met a friend of Caralmuro. His name was Don Felipe Mondragón, the husband of Matilde or "La Guacha." The four of them drank coffee and talked as if they were old

friends. A servant entered the room and announced that a gentleman wished to see Caralmuro. It was don Celso Valdespino. He brought news of Alejandra and Margarita. Margarita had died according to Don Celso in a village of San Luis and the document of her funeral was signed by the priest of the village, don Antonio Ruíz. This man, Don Juan de Caralmuro, was now rich and respected in Mexico City. He was the husband of Margarita. Don Celso had promised to bring Alejandra to him on the morrow. He had been investigating the matter for don Juan. When Murillo and Jorge had departed, Caralmuro exclaimed to his friend Mondragon: "Margarita ha muerto; pero mi hija vive, vive, está en México y mañana mismo debo estrecharla contra mi corazón."

The plans of Don Celso were to procure a young girl about sixteen years old from a certain senora. This particular woman had a daughter who was an orphan called Leonor. The plan of Don Celso was to have this girl and Don Caralmuro think that she was Alejandra. "Esta muchacha es alta, blanca, de pelo negro, ojos negros muy grandes, la nariz ni aguilena ni roma, la boca muy fresca, muy bonitos dientes, sabe leer, escribir, contar las cuatro reglas. Ella no tiene novio." The instructions of Don Celso to Doña Salvadora, the adopted mother of the girl, were these: "Diga usted a este muchacha que ha encontrado usted a

su padre que es un señor muy rico, y que irá a verla mañana en la noche, y prepararla para que le reciba bien, contarle que nació en Acapulco, que se llama Alejandra y que tiene madre que se llamaba Margarita, quien murió en el pueblo de San Luis en las regiones de la costa donde estaba usted casualmente con su familia, y en donde la recogió usted y se la trajo para Méjico;" That night don Celso went to the house of Dona Salvadora where he saw Leonor. She was quite as beautiful as the senora had described her. The next day tío Lalo and his wife Ramona were to come to see Leonor and Dona Salvadora. The purpose of their visit was to acquaint Dona Salvadora with the surroundings of the coast.

Meanwhile the fate of Nicolás Romero and his six companions appeared more desperate than ever. They were brought to Mexico to be tried before the Military Tribunal. In the military court there is absolutely no defense. There is no hope, no salvation for the accused before such a tribunal. The "cortes marciales," everywhere in Mexico during the three years that they were held by the French made three times more individuals die than the Inquisition during three centuries.

The scene changes to the house of Don Bartolo and Guadalupe Murillo. Jorge and Eduardo enter imparting the news that Nicolás is condemned to death.

Don Bartolo leaves in order to interview Caralmuro to see if he can do something for Romero.

When Don Bartolo arrived at the house of señor Caralmuro he found his friend delirious with happiness because his daughter Alejandra (Leonor) was found. Caralmuro introduced his friend to his daughter as "padre de una muchacha muy bonita y de uno joven muy simpático." Later in the evening Don Bartolo told his friend: "Nicolás Romero ha sido sentenciado a muerte." Don Juan is coming to try to secure the pardon of Romero from the Emperor. He left his house saying: "Si logro salvar a Romero, es éste el día más feliz de mi vida. Encontrar a mi hija y librar de la muerte a un buen patriota. ¡Qué desgracia es un día tan feliz para mí! Una gota de acíbar en una copa de miel!" The family of Murillo awaited the return of Don Bartolo. When he returned after midnight he told them: "No hay esperanza." All of the family retired without having eaten. At 4:00 in the morning the two, Edward and Jorge left the house in order to see their colonel for the last time. As they were leaving, in the bedroom of Guadalupe they found mother and daughter praying. Elena had been crying; she explained it to Jorge by saying: "Jorge, el que va a morir es un hombre; es un patriota, es--su coronel de usted." Jorge felt that he was beginning to

love Elena as he loved Alejandra "y apesar de todo, Jorge empezaba ya a amar a Elena, sin perder por eso su pasión por Alejandra." The two friends passed to the plaza of Mixcalco in the east part of the city where the execution was to take place. There was a multitude gathered there. As the time set for the execution arrived, Nicolás Romero, serene and almost indifferent left the prison. Infinite precautions had been made in order to carry into effect the sentence. The popularity of Romero and the notorious injustice of the proceedings made the officials fear a popular uprising. The execution took place; Jorge commented: "Es necesario marcharnos cuanto antes, libertar a la patria o morir como el coronel."

Don Celso was in good standing with the French authorities in the city. One day he thought he saw don Roque, the man who had almost killed him at the home of the priest, Antonio Ruíz. He told the prefect of the discovery. "Un hombre se llama Roque, el sacristán de la Iglesia del pueblo de San Luis, que es un hombre malo, ladrón famoso, enemigo del Imperio; probablemente tiene intención de ayudar la causa republicana." At this instant the old herrero, Ladislao Pamplona entered the room bringing as a prisoner don Roque Marín who was to be tried before the military court. El Padre Antonio, la senora Joaquina, and Don Roque had come to Mexico City concerning the establishment of a bishopric at Chilapa.

They brought with them, Don Plácido, who was convalescing, and "La Guacha." The night of the day, during which Romero was executed, passed and Roque did not return to the house which don Antonio had rented. The priest entered the street to search for him, but he did not see Roque. The day following the execution of Romero "y en el mismo lugar con las declaraciones de don Celso y del tío Lalo, Don Roque, juzgado por la corte marcial, sufría la última pena, y su cadáver era arrojado en la fosa común, cuando el padre Antonio decía alegremente a la señora Joaquina: "/Qué contento se va a poner Roque ahora que vuelva, cuando le enseñe estos pantalones de peña negra que le he comprado!"

Nine days after the execution of Nicolás Romero, don Bartolomé received a letter from Juan de Caralmuro inviting him and their sons and Jorge to eat with him at 7:00. When the three arrived that night Mondragón, the constant companion of Caralmuro was there, amiable but always sad. Leonor did the honors of the table. She appeared in her manner and actions to have always been a "gran señora." During the meal the glances of Leonor and Edward met several times. After the meal don Juan related the story of his life and that of Alejandra. He told the story of how he lived in Acapulco with his wife and little daughter and how

by "una accidente inexplicable y que no es del caso referir me hizo separarme violentamente de mi familia y tomar el rumbo de la Tierra Caliente de Michoacán." He traveled to a village called Cayuca, where he rested in the church and secured a position as sacristan for the priest of the village. This priest was very well educated. He taught his sacristan much about natural science. He dedicated himself to reading and study, being instructed by the priest. Three years passed in the home of the priest. One day they crossed the river from the village to another small village in which there was to be a fiesta. The next morning upon their return the river was swollen by heavy rains in the mountains. In the attempt to cross the river the priest was drowned. Don Juan, however, managed to save himself, and in so doing found a treasure on the bank of the river. He picked up the pieces of money; there was so much that he buried it and resolved to return. "Tomé todas las señales del lugar en que dejaba mi dinero; había una vieja zeranda, a la derecha una palma, en pie, y a la izquierda una palma derribada por el torrente; no había temor de olvidar ni de equivocarse el sitio." He returned a short time later with some mules that he had bought and filled the sacks with the money he had found and started for Mexico City.

After ten days of travel he arrived at the capital; he rented a room in an inn and changed his name, and sold his mules. "Con el precio de ellas (mulas) determiné mantenerme para ir poco a poco entrando en negocios; la suerte siguió siéndome favorable y de uno en otro contrato y de una en otra relación empleando prudentemente mi dinero, al cabo de pocos años llegué a la situación en que ustedes me ven. Por supuesto que no descuide mandar en buscar de mi mujer y de mi hija; varias veces fueron por mi cuenta a la costa, y nunca pude tener mas noticias sino que habian desaparecido de Acapulco." He went on to say that his good friend, Don Felipe Mondragón, had told him of the services of Don Celso Valdespino that he procured. "El se fué a la costa; volvió por último a México; y con los buenos datos que adquirió encontró a esa hija, que tantos años lloré perdida." In return for these services don Juan Caralmuro gave don Celso a house "en la calle de Mesones" which was able to produce 300 pesos each month.



## Volume II

Jorge and Murillo returned to their division in the Republican army. On the 19th of April which is a day of glory in the history of the state of Michoacán, was one in which the Republican forces stopped the Imperial troops. In the siege of the plaza of Zitacuaro Jorge rescued Alejandra from a burning house, but because of the smoke he could not see who it was he rescued. The next day he was told that the woman whom he rescued lived in an adjoining house. He went to see her and found it was Alejandra. "Alejandra!" exclamó Jorge, palideciendo de emoción. "Jorge!" gritó Alejandra arrojándose en sus brazos.

Meanwhile Margarita went to Mexico City for the purpose of obtaining information for the Republican cause. She pretended to be making and selling charcoal. She had two small boys with her. After she remained two months in Mexico City she returned to Zitacuaro; she was horrified on seeing the city. What had been a happy city was now nothing more than a heap of ruins. There was "soledad, tristeza y desolación." Zitacuaro had been attacked by Belgian troops whose commander decided to burn the city after its surrender. The flames enveloped the city. The smoke was dense and black clouds hid the firmament. The fury of the invaders

was not gratified. They then departed to the surrounding territory and burned houses, fields, and crops killing men, women, children, dogs, pigs, and chickens. The ashes marked the location of the buildings; the bodies the place of the streets. When the Imperial forces left they carried with them all they had pillaged, mules, horses, bulls, cows, and sheep. "Aquello era el botín de una ciudad, de un país entero, en él que hubiera entrado a saco el ejército de Atila."

Margarita passed from the ruined city of Zitacuaro to Tacambaro. The first person she saw in the village was Jorge. She learned that the Belgian troops had later been defeated. Margarita directed herself to the General in chief, Ortega, giving him the information she had received in Mexico City. After she had reported to the general, Jorge and Margarita betook themselves to a house where Jorge told his friend that he had found his novia, Alejandra. Never had he told her her name. Jorge explained: "Alejandra, una muchacha muy buena, muy virtuosa, de Acapulco, hija de un viejo don Plácido." Jorge took Margarita to the house in which were Anita, Tula, and Alejandra. "¿Cuál es?" Margarita preguntó. "Ésta," dijo Jorge, tomando la mano de Alejandra. "Hija mía!" grito la pobre mujer. ¿No me conoces? Yo soy Margarita; soy tu madre, hija mía, y la estrecho contra su pecho." Alejandra could not understand but she cried. Margarita placed her daughter on her lap as if she were

the small child she had left. Alejandra explained that Don Plácido had told her all concerning her life. Margarita did not know the real reason for the disappearance of her husband. Alejandra told her everything that Don Plácido had said. Alejandra was happy. She had found her novio and Margarita, su madre. After hearing the story, Jorge told the two, mother and daughter, that a man in Mexico City, by the name of Don Juan Caralmuro, had many points of contact with their story. He was from Acapulco; he had been absent from there fourteen years and he also had a daughter, Alejandra, but he had found her and presented her to society. He was a rich man. Margarita asked Jorge to describe him and it was the exact description of her husband. Jorge also related how don Juan had gained his first money in the bank of the río de las Balsas, the same as tía Ursula had told Alejandra. Margarita begs Jorge to aid them. "Jorge, si usted nos quiere, si tienes corazón, ayúdenos, protéjanos, que Alejandra encuentre a su padre y yo a mi marido." Later Jorge told his friend, Murillo: "Sabete que la verdadera Alejandra, hija de don Juan de Caralmuro es ni más ni menos que Alejandra, la mía, y que es hija también de nuestra buena Margarita." Murillo then asked the question: "Who then is this girl that Don Juan thinks is his daughter?" Murillo believes that she can not be guilty of any deception. Murillo

had already confessed to his friend that he was in love with Leonor.

Meanwhile Tío Lalo, Ramona and Cacomixtle were going in search of the treasure that tía Ursula had mentioned to Alejandra and that Ramona had overheard. They were working and looking for the ziranda between the two palms. They found only one palm. The flood, the night when Don Juan and the priest returned to cross the river, had washed one away. When they reached the place they sat down and ate meat, tortillas and boiled eggs before beginning their work of excavation. The three of them Tío Lalo, Ramona and Cacomixtle labored long, but no treasure could be found. As they were traveling by foot on their return to Mexico City, Tio Lalo was bitten by a dog that had hidrofobia. He became mad and died within three days. "El dedo de Dios sobre la frente de culpable."

#### Las Tres Huerfanas

Inés era una dama joven; jamás una rubia más encantadora habían pisado las tablas del escenario y jamás el público habían aplaudido con más entusiasmo a una actriz." Her mother was dona Feliciano. Ella tenía genio y talento. It was one of the last Sundays of February of 1867 "el teatro estaba lleno y aun se solicitaban billetes en el expendio. Se iba a representar

el famoso Trovador de García Gutiérrez. Inés hacía el papel de Leonor." Don Celso happened to be in the audience the night the night this play was presented. He had conceived a caprice for Inés. He believed that she was a child without experience whom he would be able to deceive easily. "Mil ideas cruzaban por el cerebro de aquel hombre, acostumbrado a jugar con el corazón de esas mujeres y burlarse de la virtud." Inés had a lover called Pablo Surallonga. One day she and her mother were awaiting his visit in her house. The scene that takes place between them is a tender love scene. "¿En qué piensas bien mío? dijo Inés dulcemente." "Pienso en ti, en ti, nada más; en que eres tan buena, tan virtuosa, tan espiritual, tu amor es mi encanto; te amo con tanta ternura con tanto reposo, tu amor es para mí una religión una idolatría." Inés replied that she loved him with an equal force, and that when she said her lines on the stage it was all for him. Inés was an orphan who had risen to her position by work and by the faithfulness of her step-mother, Doña Feliciana. Doña Feliciana told don Pablo of what she knew of the birth of Inés. This was the story. "Cuando vivíamos en los llanos de Apán, un día me mandó llamar la señora Doña Matildita, mujer del señor Felipe Mondragón, y me dijo: "Se que usted es mujer de bien y su marido muy

honrado; voy a pedirle a usted un favor. Voy a entregarle una niña, que usted la criara como su hija; pero éste es un secreto muy grande; que solo usted y su marido han de saber." Fué a mi marido y le gustó tener a la niña y la señorita me la entregó y mil pesos que nos duraron mucho tiempo." Pablo resolved that her true parents must be found and that the two of them with Doña Feliciana would go to the house of Felipe Mondragón in order to talk to Matilde. As Pablo rolled away in his carriage he said: "Si encuentro a los padres de Inés; ¡qué feliz voy a ser! Pero de todas modas ella será mi esposa, diga y piense la sociedad lo que quiera; ¡es un angel!"

Meanwhile the habitation of Don Felipe Mondragón was just as Matilde had left it. Nothing was changed. He would permit no innovations in the furniture nor in the appearance of the rooms. The rugs and the curtains were beginning to fade. Everything caused a mortal sadness. The father of Matilde died a short time after the disappearance of his daughter and of his grandchildren whom he loved tenderly. The mother had gone to live by the side of Mondragón. All that family or the two families had been reduced to two persons, Mondragón and Doña Estefania, the mother of Matilde. Don Celso visited them but Doña Estefania looked at

him, if not with aversion, at least with indifference.

Don Celso conceived the plan of marriage between Mondragón and the daughter of Don Juan de Caralmuro. This plan was difficult in order to realize because Mondragón had no news of Matilde, and also Mondragón was more than fifty years of age, while the daughter of Caralmuro was not hardly eighteen. Don Celso talked to Caralmuro; he communicated his plan to Mondragón and he actually drafted a letter containing information of the death of Matilde. Mondragón and Caralmuro had had some conferences relative to the proposed marriage. The old Salvadora, sold body and soul to Valdespino, aided his plans and poor Leonor without having anywhere to turn her eyes, was resigned to the sacrifice. Mondragón was for her a sympathetic man, a friend, but she did not feel for him as she conjectured she would feel if she were in love. Murillo was always in her memory. The date for the wedding had been set for the next month. One day as Don Celso and Mondragon were talking of the wedding plans a begger appeared on the outside. It was "La Guacha."

Father Antonio had had to return to his village of San Luis without having found out anything concerning Roque. Don Plácido and "La Guacha" determined to remain in Mexico City. "La Guacha" quiso pasar su vida en la miseria y manteniéndose con el amargo pan de la mendicidad,

sin aceptar los sinceros ofrecimientos del cura, que quería volverla a llevar consigo. Don Plácido delivered himself to religion. "Se había entregado al ascetismo." He visited all the churches in Mexico City. One day as he prayed beside an altar, a carriage stopped and a very beautiful young girl accompanied by an older man entered the temple. The two recently arrived ones were Don Juan de Caralmuro and his daughter, Leonor. They knelled near Don Plácido. He thought: "Jamás había visto semejanza mas completa; el hombre que tenía delante y el desgraciado padre de Alejandra; debían ser uno mismo." He overheard Don Juan call the girl Alejandra. There was no doubt now in his mind as to his identity. He approached the man, saying: "¿Juan de Jarros?" "Don Juan volvió como tocado por un maquina electrica; miro fijamente a don Plácido; se levantó, pálido, hizo una seña a Leonor de que le siguiese; y tomando a don Plácido de la mano, salieron las tres de la Iglesia y sin hablar una palabra, montaron en el carruaje que salió a todo el trote de los caballos."

Meanwhile Feliciana and Pablo were planning to visit the house of Señor Mondragon. When the two had gone, Don Celso had been watching the house, and immediately entered it. He had resolved to tell Ines of his intentions. He spoke to her concerning marriage. "Yo conozco a una persona, que sería el más feliz de los mortales el día



que pudiera llamar a usted suya, delante de Dios y todo el mundo." Inés believed that he was speaking of Pablo, and her eyes shone with happiness. Don Celso continues telling her: "Inés este hombre que no espera más que su consentimiento para llevarla al altar, soy yo, yo que amo a usted, que soy libre, que soy rico, que puedo hacerla feliz." He paints a picture of Pablo as a young man who pays attentions to all the girls in the high society of Mexico City. After Don Celso had left Pablo came in. Inés tells him that it was necessary that everything terminate between them. Finally Doña Feliciano entered telling them of what she had found out in the house of Señor Mondragón. They had told her that doña Matilde had been dead for several years. As she was beginning to leave this house an almoner approached her and asked that she meet her near the puerta de Santa Catarina.

Meanwhile the Republican forces were becoming more and more victorious. The Imperial forces were making their last effort at Queretaro. Nearly all the country was in the power of the Independents. Margarita and Alejandra arrived in Toluca, and from there they expected to pass to Mexico City. In vain Jorge wrote to Caralmuro; he had never obtained an answer. With the forces that left Toluca for the siege of Queretaro were Jorge and Murillo. Margarita and Alejandra were anxious to uncover the veil that

surrounded their history; one morning they left for Mexico City, "y entre las lágrimas y los sollozos de Tula and Anita, y de los bruscos apretones de mano de Rito y Diego, salieron de la capital del antiguo Estado de México." As they arrived in Mexico City they were seen by Don Celso who still belonged to the secret police of the Empire. He thought that here was his chance. He told the spy commission that these two women Margarita and Alejandra "eran espías del enemigo." As they left the hotel de Iturbide they were arrested and carried to the Diputación. "Esta vez no te me escaparás," decía entre sí don Celso, mirando el carruaje que caminaba velozmente para la Diputación. Meanwhile Don Plácido had explained to Don Juan that this girl Leonor was not his daughter, Alejandra. "No, señor, no es hija de usted; no es Alejandra; ya le he confesado, a usted mi delito; ya sabe usted que no pesa sobre su conciencia la sangre de un hombre derramada por su mano. Yo he criado a Alejandra; y no la he abandonado ni un instante, desde el momento en que Margarita fió a mis cuidados." Don Juan was astonished and amazed. He resolved to tell Mondragón and did so when they returned to the house. Leonor was called in and told that she was not the daughter of Don Juan Caralmuro. She summoned Doña Salvadora in order to prove that she had had no part in the conspiracy. This old lady confessed with these words: "Señor Don Juan, hemos engañado a usted;

Leonor no es su hija, y nosotros nunca hemos creído tampoco que lo fuese; perdoneme usted." Leonor exclaimed: "¿Nosotros? Nosotros ha dicho usted? Estos senores van a creer que yo también tengo parte en ese infame complot; diga usted." To this Dona Salvadora exclaimed: "Leonor ha sido también víctima del engaño; esto es la verdad." Leonor broke into sobs. She told them that she was leaving this house and that Dona Salvadora should not go with her. "Es usted una infame; si usted me ha criado, ha sido para comerciar conmigo, para explotarme; es usted una mujer infame." Leonor rushed to the door but was stopped by Don Juan who told her that if she was not his daughter in blood relationship she was in heart and begged her to stay. Señor Mondragón told her that his promise of marriage was still good and begged her to remain. She consented with the question: "¿Pues quién soy yo? Dios mío! ¿Pues quién soy yo?"

Meanwhile Feliciano did not attend her meeting with "La Guacha," and thus the plan of discovering who the parents of Inés were was forgotten. During this time don Celso was increasing his visits and multiplying his arguments. Pablo continued his visits but Inés was beginning to understand that her future was with don Celso although her heart was with Pablo. Each day Feliciano and Inés had to face a pecuniary crisis. They frequently had to sell articles of furniture and clothing. Many times Inés made

over her costumes in order to appear different to the eyes of the public. Pablo himself was ignorant of the sufferings of these women whom he loved. One day Pablo arrived and begged Ines to marry him with these words: "Inés, Inés mía, ¿quién podría ser mi esposa sobre la tierra, sino tú, tú eras la única mujer a quien he amado verdaderamente en el mundo?" Inés cried from happiness. Feliciano entered returning from pawning some ear-rings of Inés and presented food in its place. She was happy over the news telling don Pablo that Inés "habla de usted dormida y despierta y a todas horas." The date for the wedding was set for the following Monday. After Don Pablo had been gone several minutes Don Celso entered the house. Inés told him of the news. As he left he pledged himself to a resolution. "Bajo las escaleras y al llegar al zaguán, volvió el rostro hacia adentro y con los ojos chispeantes, y con una voz ronca y gutural; 'Si él ha formado la resolución, de que tú seas su esposa, yo he resuelto que tú mueras antes que ser de otro hombre; veremos como se cumplen esas dos resoluciones.'" Valdespino was a man of diabolical activity and of terrible passions. He was greedy beyond measure in his thirst for gold and women. All means appeared to him just. He followed two or three women at the same time. He had sold his soul to the devil, although he did not believe in the devil nor in God nor in anything; nothing but his brutal appetites. When he

had ordered Margarita and Alejandra to be taken to the Diputación he started for the house of Marquéz. Marquéz was at this time arbitrator of the destinies of Mexico. He was the complete incarnation of all that was infamous and repugnant. "Su carrera esta marcado con sangre. Don Celso obtained an order from Marquéz in which he might do with the two women what he liked. When he returned to the Diputación he began to search the trunks of Alejandra and Margarita. Some letters from Jorge and Murillo were in his hands, a precious find. Don Celso ordered that Margarita be brought before him. Don Celso questioned her as to her name and to the young girl who was with her. Margarita told him the story of the separation of her husband and the complete account of their lives. Don Celso realized that this girl was the real daughter of Caralauuro but he was determined that he should never know because he would find out that he had deceived him. Alejandra was in a separate cell. Don Celso entered saying to her: "El padre Bernal no es ése mi nombre, ni soy yo sacerdote; yo adopté ese disfraz para poder verte; para seguir libremente tus pasos, porque estoy enamorado de ti, desde el día que te conozco." Alejandra replied that he had treated her very badly since he had formed the plot to kidnap her and kill her father. He told her Don Plácido had not died. Don Celso told Alejandra of the danger that Margarita had incurred of probably losing her life. He told Alejandra

that the one way she would be able to save her mother's life was to surrender to him and be his. "¿Quieres ser mía? Di que sí, y tu madre se salvará." Alejandra replied: "A ese precio, nunca." Don Celso tried again: "No te pido que seas mía para toda la vida; por una hora de tu amor; aquí mismo, sin que nadie ni la misma Margarita lo llegue a saber; te prometo tu libertad y la suya; te prometo más Alejandra; te volveré a tu padre, rica y feliz." Alejandra replies: "Nunca, nunca. Mi honra o la vida de mi madre! Esto es mas que infernal." Don Celso told her to reflect on the matter and ordered that the mother and daughter should not be united for a single moment. Tomorrow he would return for his answer. When he left the prison it was five in the evening. When he arrived at his house he found Pilar and Ramona, the widow of Tío Lalo. She had taken refuge in the house of Don Celso. Cacomixtle was in the house also. Don Celso ordered that the two women prepare two lunches for Alejandra and her mother. Cacomixtle carried the lunches to the two women. He wondered as he went to the jail what kind of a new net was this that Don Celso was weaving. Margarita...Alejandra ...Si será la hija de Don Plácido?" Cacomixtle entered the cell of Margarita but he did not know her. He then entered the cell of Alejandra and recognized her instantly. The two planned and schemed. Tomorrow Cacomixtle would bring a pencil and paper in order that the mother and

daughter might correspond. He promised Alejandra that he would listen to every word that don Celso would say to Doña Pilar and tell her when he brought their breakfast the following morning. That night Cacomixtle watched all the movements, and listened to the conversation in the dining room. He learned that Margarita would not be put to death but that Alejandra would be made to believe that. The following morning Cacomixtle left for the prison with two baskets. He told Alejandra: "Según pude entender, que la iban a amenazar a usted con fusilar a su madre, si no condescendía." He continued explaining to Alejandra. "Pilar preguntó, que si de veras fusilaban a su madre de usted en caso de que no consiguiera nada, y don Celso le dijo: 'Tonta, si eso no es más que espantarla. ¿Cómo habían de fusilar a esa mujer? Ni hay por que.'" The boy was not able to deliver the pencil and paper as he had promised but he would try again at noon.

Cacomixtle when he brought the meal saw General O'Haran and thought that possibly he could save the life of Alejandra and Margarita. He begged the general to do that telling him that the two women were his mother and sister. The two went to the palace of Marquéz to ask for the life of the two unfortunate women. Meanwhile Don Celso had had reverses with Inés. She would not marry him. He shut himself up in his room and ordered that he be not



disturbed. Suddenly he remembered Alejandra. As he came from his room a note was given to him which had arrived several hours before. It read: "Señor Don Celso: Estoy resignada a todo; puede usted disponer de mí; venga usted a la hora que quiera; o mande usted que vaya a donde lo disponga; pero salve usted a mi madre."

---Alejanra. When Don Celso arrived at the prison Margarita and Alejandra had gone. They had been set free by order of senor Marquez. He was told that the boy who had been bringing the meals to the two women brought the order of release from Marquéz. Now Don Celso had been thwarted twice in his plans.

Meanwhile Leonor affected by the violent emotions that she had suffered fell ill with a burning fever. Don Juan understood the emotions and the purity of her soul, and having for the child a paternal affection, did not leave the head of the bed of the sick girl during the ten days in which the fever lasted. Don Plácido lived with Caralmuro and the two friends spent long periods talking of Alejandra and planning to find her. When Leonor had recovered sufficiently Doña Salvadora was summoned before Don Juan and Don Plácido, who because of the affection they had for Leonor resolved to find her parents. The old woman trembled as if she were before a court martial. She told the story of how one day there



arrived at her and her sister's home, a woman with whom they had a friendship called Doña Pilar. The latter said to them: "Ahí tengo unos huerfanitos que yo quisiera que ustedes recibieran; son un niño y una niña pero muy bonitos." The two sisters took the two children. A short time later they gave the boy to a senora Dona Joaquina, whose brother was a vicar in Tacubaya. "El padre y su hermana eran muy buenos, y se hicieron cargo del niño y no he vuelto a saber más de él." Nosotros seguimos criando a Leonor." The story of how she had arrived at the home of Don Juan was different. One day Doña Salvadora saw Dona Pilar and she told her that her master, Don Celso, had need of a girl who was around sixteen years of age in order to present her to a very rich man as his daughter. Doña Pilar assured her that nothing of harm could come from the plan and that the child would be rich and would not want for anything. The reason that dona Salvadora knew so much about the coast was because she had obtained the information from a tío Lalo and his wife, Ramona. Don Plácido explained that this was the herrero of the village of San Luis who had conspired with padre Bernal for the kidnapping of Alejandra. Dona Salvadora explained that the brother of Leonor had been given to Doña Joaquina, sister of the father, Don Antonio Ruiz. He was called Jorge. Don Plácido realized and said to his friends that he knew the family exclaiming: "Jorge, el padre Antonio, Doña Joaquinita; los conozco,

don Juan; el padre Antonio y su hermana estaban en San Luis; el padre era el cura de allí. Jorge había tomado las armas republicanas con el coronel Nicolás Romero."

Don Juan now realized that he knew the boy and told Leonor that she knew him too, because he was the one who had accompanied Eduardo Murillo; he knew that he was the one because Jorge had told him of how he had been reared by don Antonio Ruiz. Leonor was happy upon knowing that she had seen her brother and that he lived. The persons assembled in the room agreed that nothing should be said of their discovery. Don Juan said: "Yo meditaré el modo de arrancarle una confesión a la vieja Pilar para descubrir a los padres de Leonor."

One day a short time later, Mondragón told Don Celso of what had happened in the home of don Juan. Mondragón had received the story from don Juan Caralmuro without any suspicion being cast on don Celso. He still believed in his honesty and integrity. When Don Celso heard this news he realized that something must be done. Márquez was now the real ruler of Mexico. He had been forced to use extreme measures to secure money. He had imprisoned many heads of large families in order to obtain the needed sum. Don Celso went to Márquez and told him about the wealth of don Juan Caralmuro. He was immediately forced from his home and put in prison. He left don Plácido in charge of his house. Later that night Don

Plácido received this letter from Caralmuro. Amigo don Plácido: "Se exigen por mi rescate cuarenta mil pesos. Estoy seguro de no tener en caja más que la mitad. Vea usted temprano al amigo Mondragón, a ver si se puede hacer el entero mañana mismo." He further stated that he believed that this was the work of an enemy although he could not think who it could be.

Meanwhile Cacomixtle, Margarita and Alejandra were in the plaza discussing what they were going to do. They had among them only three pesos, but that amount would be sufficient to keep them in a meson for three days. Cacomixtle knew Mexico City better than any of the three and the women followed him with the greatest faith. Certainly they were justified by this trust in him because the astuteness and affection of that boy had saved them from the Diputación and from the claws of don Celso. They obtained a room which cost them only a peseta each night. Their resources of three pesos soon gave out. Cacomixtle earned money by watching horses and shining boots but it was not enough. The two women did not dare to leave the inn for fear of falling into the hands of don Celso.

Meanwhile Don Plácido arrived at the house of Mondragón, and showed him the letter written by Don Juan from the fail. They secured 10,000 pesos which they delivered to Marquéz. Juan told Don Plácido to reserve the rest because he thought that the defeat of the Imperial forces

was certain. Already there had been received news of the surrender of Queretaro and the prison sentence of Maximilian. Don Plácido returned and visited all the inns looking for the one inhabited by Ladislao, in order to secure information concerning Margarita and Alejandra. He arrived at the inn where the two women and Cacomixtle were staying. The happiness of the two women upon finding Don Plácido can be imagined. He told them that he had been living with Don Juan, the husband of Margarita and the father of Alejandra. ¡Que felicidad de todos los tres!" Don Plácido left to return later bringing new clothing and food. As he returned to his carriage he exclaimed: "¡Que día! ¡Que día! Es el más feliz de mi vida." When Don Plácido returned he found that by order of the police the home of Don Juan Caralmuro had been sacked and a large part of the possessions and food taken from it. He himself fell a prisoner to the police. Don Celso exclaimed: "Enemigo menos."

Meanwhile in the house of Ines, Feliciano had gone out to the street. She met the almoner of the house of Felipe Mondragon. This woman approached Feliciano and told her that she had something important to tell her; the two directed themselves toward the iglesia de San Lorenzo. This almoner was no other person than "La Guacha." This woman delivered to her the birth certificate of the child whom Feliciano had taken to rear. "Conste por el presente

que hoy, 1<sup>o</sup> de enero de 1851 entrego una nina de dos dias de nacida a don Procopio Martínez y a doña Feliciano Navas, su mujer. My madre, doña Estefanía podrá si quiera algún día, decir quienes son los padres de esta criatura."--- Matilde Frias de Mondragón. Feliciano resolved to look for this woman, Doña Estefanía, in order that she might learn who the parents of Inés were.

Meanwhile Margarita and Alejandra were waiting to tell Cacomixtle the good news that Don Plácido had brought them. Cacomixtle finally arrived bringing with him bread, ham, sardines, and cheese. When they finally finished eating the two women told the boy of how the father of Alejandra, the one that had reared her, had come to see them and that he had discovered her real father. To this information Cacomixtle asked: "¿Tiene usted dos padres?" Cacomixtle then told them of the sacking of the house in which don Plácido was entering. This was, of course, the home of Juan de Caralmuro. It was resolved after this bad news that Cacomixtle should go to see Don Juan and tell him of the fate of Don Plácido. These three, of course, did not know of the imprisonment of Don Juan. Cacomixtle went to the house and found that Don Juan and Don Plácido did not return during all the night.

Meanwhile Don Celso had despaired of possessing the love of Inés. He perpetrated a horrible crime to fulfill his resolution, that of seeing Inés dead before belonging

to Pablo. He prepared some sweets containing poison, wrapped some in white paper, some in rose and then went to the home of Inés carrying them with him. They were poisoned with phosphorus. When he returned that night he had finished the dastardly deed of poisoning two young people, good, happy, and full of hopes for the future. Shortly after he returned, Dona Estefanía came to see him. She told him "burlando la fe de mi marido tuve con usted relaciones de que me avergüenzo; de estas relaciones resolvió una niña, hija de usted; vive y está en México. Se llama Inés Martinez. At this name Don Celso exclaimed: "¡Inés! Inés!--gritó don Celso and se lanzó a la calle como un loco sin sombrero y dejando a Doña Estefanía asombrado."

Meanwhile many of the families in Mexico City abandoned it during the siege. Many left for the town of Mexicaltzingo; among these families was that of Eduardo Murillo. The three, Dona Guadalupe, Don Bartolo, and Elena left early one morning. Elena was happy because she was going to see Jorge again. She dressed herself with much care as if she was going to a ball. "En Jorge, Elena había llegado ya a tener un verdadero amor." As they approached the town they were met by Jorge and Eduardo. Los circunstancias autorizaban un abrazo y Jorge abrazó a Elena. Jorge comprendió que llegaba para él el momento del combate; Elena y Alejandra iban quizá muy pronto a encontrarse dentro

de su corazón. ¿Quién vencería? During this time Elena and Jorge saw much of each other. "La imagen de Alejandra iba como desvaneciéndose en su corazón, para dar paso a la de Elena."

A few days later Alejandra and Margarita arrived. This caused Elena to be jealous for the first time in her life; she asked her brother: "¿quienes eran esas mujeres?" pregunto Elena con profundo desdén. "Esas se llamen Margarita la más grande y Alejandra, la novia de Jorge."

Meanwhile Cacomixtle returned to the house of Caralmuro in search of the latter and of Don Plácido. The three of them resolved to leave Mexico because Don Juan and Don Plácido would probably remain prisoners until the siege was ended.

Meanwhile Leonor, who had written Señor Mondragón for assistance, went to live in his house with him and Doña Estefanía, the mother of Matilde. Doña Estefanía recognized the similiarity between this Leonor and her daughter, Matilde. "Por una de esas casualidades, que no son raras como parece en la vida, Leonor entraba en la casa de su padre; no solo sin ser reconocida, sino como su futura mujer, y dormía aquella noche en la misma cama en que había nacido." The next morning Leonor questioned Doña Estefanía concerning the death of the wife of Señor Mondragon. She was told that she had been dead fourteen

years, and also that two children had been born.

While the two conversed Doña Feliciano arrived. The conference between Doña Feliciano and Doña Estefanía lasted an hour in which during that time Doña Estefanía learned that her daughter lived and that this daughter was Inés, whom Matilde had delivered to Feliciano and her husband. As a result of this interview Doña Estefanía went to the home of Don Celso and told him that Inés was their daughter.

Mondragón after paying 5,000 pesos more in addition to what had already been paid procured the liberty of Don Juan Caralmuro. As Leonor learned of this news she said that she would be happy to come back to the house of Don Juan. Before she left, the three, Mondragón, Leonor, and Salvadora made a trip through all the rooms; many of which had been closed since the disappearance of Matilde. In the living room there hung a large portrait of a beautiful woman who was Matilde. Doña Salvadora commented: "No hay duda; yo conocí a esta señora; sí, sí; me entregó los niños en la plazuela de Loreta." Mondragón was told the story of how his wife had delivered to Dona Salvadora, the two children, Jorge and Leonor; father and daughter were united. Mondragón heard news of his son, Jorge, who had been reared by the priest, Antonio Ruiz.

Meanwhile after Don Celso had learned from the lips of Doña Estefanía that Inés was his daughter, he ran hurriedly



to her home in order to see if the poison had taken effect. Valdespino hurriedly entered the door followed by Doña Estefanía. Upon entering Don Celso directed himself to the sofa and too, the linen cloth that concealed the face of the man lying down. It was Pablo. "Ya espiro'," said one of the doctors. He then entered hurriedly the bedroom of Inés, followed by doña Estefanía. Inés was lying down, her hair and dress in disorder. She was having violent convulsions. A few minutes later she expired. Two hours later Don Celso left for his house in a state of complete idiocy. The next day the corpse of Pablo was claimed by his family; the following day at 8:00 at night, there kneeled before the corpse of Inés two women, Doña Feliciano and "La Guacha."

Meanwhile each moment was more compromising for Jorge. Alejandra already devoured by jealousy, demanded that her lover deny himself the friendship of the Murillo family. Elena had said absolutely nothing, but there was such a change in her character that her parents began to notice the variation. Elena became pale. She showed signs of weeping. Murillo also noticed the change that was taking place in his sister. He noted that this change took place beginning the day that Alejandra arrived. "Luego Elena estaba enamorada de Jorge." Eduardo became angry at his friend, broke their friendship and challenged him to a

duel. Edward accused his friend of being "un mal amigo, un desleal, un infame." They were to go to Santa Anita to fight the duel. Jorge did not want to do this, but it was forced upon him. On the way they met a division of enemy troops and in the encounter with them Jorge saved the life of Edward.

From the day that Mondragón discovered that Leonor was his daughter, all the doors of the house were flung open. "Mondragón estaba verdaderamente contento; el placer de haber encontrado a su hija y la esperanza de ver a Jorge le hacían olvidar la historia misteriosa de la desaparición de su mujer." Mondragón realizes the part that Don Celso has played in his misfortunes. When Doña Estefanía returned from witnessing the death of Ines she closed herself in her room. Don Felipe arrived and knocked at the door. He entered and told her of her granddaughter, Leonor. Doña Estefanía fainted into the arms of Leonor. The following morning Inés was buried. There were only two mourners, Doña Feliciano and "La Guacha."

That evening "La Guacha" appeared at the home of Mondragón asking for alms and charity. Doña Estefanía told her that Mondragón "ha encontrado a una hija suya que se había perdido desde niña." La Guacha expressed a desire to see her. When Leonor appeared on the porch this woman fainted at the sight of her daughter. To this doña Estefanía said: "Usted me oculta algo, ¿quién es usted? ¿Cómo se llama?

¿Por qué se desmayó al ver a Leonor? Aquí hay un misterio que es preciso que me descubra." La Guacha promised to tell her everything tomorrow. As she left, however, she vowed never to return to that house because she did not wish to stain her daughter's name or to sadden her husband and tell him her history. She realized that her mother was beginning to suspect. "Adiós hija mía; adiós madre, adiós esposo mío!"

One night a short time later "la ciudad se durmió imperial y despertó republicana." Don Juan Caralmuro was released from prison and found Don Plácido in his home. He immediately told him that he had found Alejandra and Margarita and that they were in a meson in the city. Don Plácido told Don Juan that his wife "parece hermana de su hija; es una mujer perfectamente conservada."

Meanwhile Don Celso had resolved to flee. He left Dona Pilar 1,000 pesos and the furniture. He gave Ramona fifty pesos.

Jorge and Murillo were planning upon entering Mexico City. At dawn one morning all of the fortresses of the city were surrendered to the Republicans. "Oigan los repiques de la catedral. Los ecos sonoros y majestuosos de la campana mayor de la Catedral de Mexico llevados por las puras brisas de la mañana llegaron a confirmar la verdad de las palabras del ayundante: 'Soldados: Trunfo'

la independencia, ¡viva Mexico!" Immediately after the news of the triumph circulated through Mexicaltzingo all the families that had left the city began to prepare to return to it. Margarita, Alejandra, and Cacomixtle likewise resolved to return. They arrived at the puerte de la casa de Caralmuro. Don Juan and Don Plácido were not there but the three sat down in order to await them. Meanwhile Don Plácido and Don Juan had gone in search of Margarita and Alejandra. When they returned to their house they saw the two women and Cacomixtle. Don Juan, of course, did not recognize them, but Don Plácido told him: "Alejandra," Don Juan, "Alejandra y Margarita!" Don Juan stretched out his arms to his wife and daughter. Don Plácido contemplated the scene with happiness. Caralmuro began to climb the stairs of his home embracing his wife and daughter, and Don Plácido and Cacomixtle without saying a word climbed after them. Alejandra told her father and Don Plácido all about the persecutions of Don Celso to which they had been victims. Don Juan and Don Plácido decide to punish this malvado. They went hurriedly to the house of Don Celso. On the way there they met Jorge. Then the three entered the house of Don Celso; apparently there was no one there; everything was in disorder. As they were searching the house Don Juan opened a door, gave a cry and called his friends. The two women Pilar and Ramona had

suffered from horrible burns, and were dying. The house had been sacked by the servants leaving the two women helpless victims of the fire of the house. The fire was extinguished. While Don Juan went to the authorities to tell them what they had found, Jorge found the letter which Alejandra had written to Don Celso surrendering all. He believed immediately that Alejandra had been dishonored and abused. Cacomixtle arrived and told him the story of how Alejandra had been saved from the claws of Don Celso. After the authorities arrived the four friends left the investigation in their hands. As Jorge left the three to report to his general, Mondragón and Leonor recognized him took him home and told him that Leonor was his sister and Mondragón his father. He heard the story of his birth from Doña Salvadora. "La pobre vieja tiene que contar por la décima vez aquella historia y Jorge no pudo negarse a la evidencia; y entonces abrazó, llorando de ternura, a su padre y a su hermana." In the evening of this same day there arrived at the house of Mondragón, Caralmuro, Alejandra and Margarita. "Jorge había contado y a su padre su amor a Alejandra, y su promesa de casarse con ella. Caralmuro por su parte había sabido con gusto la pasión de su hija por Jorge y la noticia fue para los dos padres verdaderamente satisfactoria." Soon after the Caralmuro family arrived, Alejandra, Margarita, and Juan,

Jorge went in search of Murillo to tell him the news.

"Murillo, Leonor es mi hermana; es hija como yo de don Felipe Mondragón. Entonces los dos llegaron a la casa, y Murillo fué recibido con verdadero placer de todos. La boda de Jorge y Alejandra quedó arreglada. Murillo no quiso quedarse atrás, y como el terreno estaba bien preparado, antes de dos días don Bartolomé de Murillo pedía a Leonor en matrimonio para su hijo, Eduardo, y Mondragon no pudo negarse; la muchacha estaba enamorada y Eduardo era todo un buen chico. Los dos bodas, se fijaron para el mismo día."

On the road from Mexico to Toluca there is a small village that is called Jocotitlán. One afternoon a few days after the surrender of Mexico a man riding a beautiful horse and followed by a servant arrived at the door of the house of the priest. It was don Celso. "La Guacha" was there begging for alms. "Esta tarde un señor (Don Celso) vino a visitar al señor Vicario y al acabar de tomar su chocolate, se ha caído muerto." The priest hired a carpenter to make a wooden coffin for three pesos and six reales. His body was wrapped in a serape and placed in a box. The lid was nailed on. Four men carried the box to the church. El vicario said the mass and then the corpse was deposited in a small vault that was formed under the altar. "Los fieles que habían asistido a la misa, salieron; el sacristán

cerró las puertas, y la iglesia quedó sola y en el mas profundo silencio." As the vicario locked the church "La Guacha" stayed in the shadows within the interior. When everyone was gone she approached the chamber in which Don Celso was enclosed and knelt beside it: "Ya no eres nada; pero has muerto como merecías morir; tú, el verdugo de la inocencia, tú que causaste mi desgracia, mi vergüenza, tú debías haber sentido por lo menos los tormentos que hiciste sentir a tu hija, a la pobre Inés, has muerto; no te perdono; no de perdono." At this instant there was heard the sound of knocking within the box. Don Celso's head appeared, crying: "Socorro, socorro." "La Guacha" told him that she would not help him out of that place; she accused him of all his crimes and recited them again for him. ¿Tú esperas clemencia de mí? ¿Tú, el envenenador de tu hija, de la pobre Inés, tú, el perseguidor de Alejandra, tú el asesino de Pablo y de Don Plácido? Nunca; te odio; te detesto. Voy a verte morir con la agonía mas espantosa en medio de la desesperación mas horrible." The eyes of Matilde shone with an infernal fire of hatred. She commanded him to open his eyes. Upon his refusal she stuck a pen through one of them. She told him he was "una fiera, un demonio, un monstruo, infame, un serpiente, un miserable cobarde." In the midst of her fury "La Guacha" was attacked with a heart disease and fell dead upon the face of Don Celso

so that her face was united with that of Don Celso who could not move. Several days later the vicar and the sacristan entered the room where the vault lay and discovered the body of a woman on the coffin of Don Celso. The two were in complete decomposition. "Nadie pudo explicar el caso; pero hubo necesidad de enterrar a los dos juntos, e inmediatamente para evitar un escándalo y una averiguación judicial. "Matilde y Valdespino durmieron el eterno sueño en el mismo lecho."

Meanwhile three months after the taking of the capital, in a luxurious country house in Tacubaya there were celebrated two weddings. Alejandra gave her hand to Jorge and Leonor was united with Murillo. The two were retired from army service. Elena forgetting her infatuation for Jorge began to love a young lawyer. Diego y Rito were made overseers on one of the haciendas of Felipe Mondragón. Doña Estefanía always sad but tranquil continued living at the side of Mondragón, who granted a pension to the unfortunate Feliciano. Cacomixtle as the adopted son of Caralmuro dedicated himself to the arts and entered a lithography school in the city, where he worked so rapidly that there were hopes of seeing him converted into a Constantino Escalante.



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

The historical novels studied revealed the fact that the majority of the Mexican people did not want a monarchy. "Calvario y Tabor," "La Intervención y El Imperio," y "El Cerro de las Campanas" clearly show numerous and enthusiastic receptions accorded Juárez and his liberal ministers. Just preceding the victory of the Mexicans (el cinco de mayo, 1862) when they were successful in preventing the capture of the city, Juárez visited Puebla. There were cries of "Viva Mexico, viva la independencia, viva el señor Presidente Juárez, viva el supremo gobierno constitucional!" Exactly one year later after the French had laid siege to the city of Puebla from May 1862 until May 1863, the French forces were finally successful but only after the food and the ammunition of the patriots had been exhausted. Hunger prevailed everywhere. It was useless to prolong the fight. On the 19th of May, 1863 the French army made its entrance into Puebla. "¡Qué sorpresa da a Forey! Ni una autoridad que le recibe; ni una mujer que le sonriera; ni un grupo que le aclamara." Only the clergy who sympathized with the French welcomed them in

the Cathedral.

Another example of the attitude of the Mexican people toward Maximilian and his wife Carlota was the lack of a reception at Vera Cruz. Maximilian commented: "¿Así reciben en vuestra tierra a los Emperadores? No han de gastar mucho dinero ni mucho entusiasmo en ello." So void of enthusiasm were the inhabitants upon their arrival, that Carlota began biting her lips. Her beautiful eyes were filled with tears. Maximilian was bitterly disappointed. He had been assured by the Mexican reactionaries and clericals that his transit through this territory would be one of continuous ovation.

Another example that testified to the fact that the Mexican people did not want a monarchy was the continual conspiring in the Empire. It was a period of unrest.

Throughout the period of the intervention, the intellectual leaders, those that were liberal in their outlook, were on the side of the Republic. Important novelists and writers were fighting to sustain the constitutional government of Juárez. Some of these leaders were Vicente Riva Palacio and Ignacio M. Altamirano.

Gradually as the Empire began to fall the liberal forces moved south. Throughout this period they were

supported by the majority of the Mexicans. Only those places that were occupied by the French bayonets remained loyal to the Empire.

The attitude of the soldiers toward the Empire and the Republic can be seen clearly because the members of the imperial troops had clothing, shelter and plenty of food. The Republicans suffered much in their fight against the invaders. The soldiers of the Republic were ill clothed and hungry. They received no salary except a piece of meat and some corn tortillas. Their situation could have been remedied if they had chosen to forsake their principles and join the imperial forces. But they did not. They remained steadfast to the government of their choice. Their attitude toward Maximilian was expressed in the words of the fictitious hero, Miguel Caballero de los Olivos when he commented upon the death of Maximilian: "Fue un filibustero y un usurpador, quien tal hizo que tal pague."

Only the conservative society was honored by the Empire. Balls were given for them alone. The Junta de Notables was composed of conservatives.

The attitude of the Mexican people toward the intervention was expressed by Don José de Jesús Terán in

an interview with Maximilian. He told him that the triumph of the intervention is a yoke of arms. "The example of Iturbide shows how our country admires the dynasties. If you accept the throne you would be one of so many victims sacrificed to the fatalism of the revolution."

Both in history and in these historical novels the position of the church is reflected as follows: The clergy prepared for the anointing of the Emperor, after his invitation by the Assembly of Notables. The attitude of the clergy toward the Mexican government of Juárez was unfavorable because that government had confiscated church lands and monasteries, and passed the Reform Laws, including civil marriages etc. This government also expelled many bishops. The numbers of the convents and monasteries were reduced. Many of these churchmen went to France. There they tried to persuade Emperor Napoleon and especially his wife Eugenia to intervene in the affairs of Mexico and restore the church to its former position. These bishops and priests attended the imperial functions given by Napoleon.

Another example of the attitude of the clergy toward the Intervention can be reflected in the reception

they gave to the French invaders. After the capture of Puebla only the clergy who sympathized with the French welcomed them in the Cathedral.

The attitude of the clergy toward the intervention is manifested in the sanction and blessing given by the pope to the Imperial undertaking. Four days after Maximilian and Carlota left Trieste they arrived at the Holy Vatican to see the Pope. The Mexican delegation attended mass. Maximilian and Carlota received the communion at the hands of His Holiness, Pope Pius IX. After the mass was concluded there was served an exquisite breakfast. The pope blessed the future Emperor and Empress of Mexico.

When their Majesties arrived in Mexico City, they marched to the Zócalo and entered the National Cathedral where an elaborate reception was held for them by the reactionary clergy.

Three years later in February 1867 Maximilian and his generals were given protection and aid by the priest in the village of Tlalnepantla after they had evacuated Mexico City and were on their way to Queretaro.

The reason why the church sympathized with the Empire was because it was monarchical in nature as an

institution.

Contrary to the examples given above, the fictitious priest Don Antonio Ruiz of the village of San Luis on the Pacific Coast near Acapulco, represents a type of the clergy in favor of the Republic. The priest and his sister had adopted a son Jorge who served in the Revolutionary army. This class of the clergy who sympathized with the Republic were nearer the lower class and in contact with the people.

The following sketch of the political trend in Mexico is the one given by the historical novels. It is almost exactly the one given by Priestley in his "Mexican Nation" and other sources that I have read concerning the political situation. The political situation existing between Mexico and Europe is vividly portrayed especially in the novel, "La Intervención y El Imperio." This novel treats of the trend of events from the time of the marriage of Eugenia de Montijo and the French Emperor Napoleon III. The details of the intrigues conducted by the exiled Mexicans and their influence with the Empress Eugenia is aptly pictured. After the Juárez government was installed, it proclaimed the Constitution of 1857 together with many other liberal measures. This government did not recognize its previous debts and suspended payment for three years.

In response to this action Dubois de Saligny was sent over by Napoleon to collect the French debt. His pleadings for payment had no effect. Napoleon then proposed to the powers of England and Spain joint action in the intervention in the affairs of Mexico in order to collect the Mexican debts. In the Convention of London on the 31st of October between these three countries the purpose of the arrangement was to guarantee the security of the foreign residents and to obtain the payment of the claims which these countries had against the government. All of this was to be accomplished without any acquisition of territory nor without exercising in the affairs of Mexico any influence that might affect the right of the Mexican nation to elect and constitute freely its own form of government.

After the French troops had arrived in Mexico they concentrated their attention upon Puebla which commanded entrance into Mexico City. The general in charge of the Republican army in Puebla was Zaragoza. His defense of the city and the famous cinco de mayo is represented in this historical novel in a similiar fashion as in a Mexican history of the time. In February 1863 this famous general succumbed to an attack of typhus fever. The account of his sickness and death and of his great worth to the Republican cause are given in considerable detail both in

fiction and in fact. The telegram which told Mexico City and the world of the death of this famous general was sent by Navarro: "Son las diez y diez minutos de la mañana. Acaba de morir el general Zaragoza." After the death of Zaragoza the morale of the Republican army was broken. The surrender of Puebla came on May 19, 1863.

In the novel the members of the Mexican Commission that offered the throne of Mexico to Maximilian are those given by Profesor Gregorio Torres Quintero. They were General Almonte, José María Gutiérrez de Estrada, and Francisco J. Miranda (a turbulent Mexican cleric.)

The novel is faithful in its portrayal of the hesitancy of Maximilian and his indecision in accepting the Mexican situation. He decided once that he would not go, declaring this resolution to the Mexican commission: "No iré a Mexico." Due to the influence of the commission and because of the ambitions for him by his wife Carlota, this decision was changed. After he had accepted he was sorry of his choice and was afraid that the adventure would be unsuccessful. After the decision was made, they visited the Pope who blessed the undertaking and concluded with these words: "Great are the rights of people and it is necessary to satisfy them, but still greater and more



sacred are the rights of the church."

According to the "Intervencion y El Imperio" "fiestas, leyes, conspiraciones de los conservadores, y derrotas de los liberales a esto se redujo el imperio durante su corta existencia." One day the news leaked out that Napoleon "no quiere que sus tropas duren aqui mas tiempo." In order to persuade Napoleon to uphold his part of the Treaty of Miramar, Carlota embarked for Europe where she finally gained an interview with Napoleon. Carlota explained after the interview: "Y no recuerda el tratado de Miramar; y se atreve a calificar de inhábil al Emperador y habla de abdicacion. El dijo: 'Ni un franco; ni un hombre.' Morirá Maximiliano y yo moriré con él." The Empress because of these rebuffs began to lose her mind. When she journeyed to Rome at the Vatican she thought that she had been poisoned in France in the Palace of Napoleon. The Empire was lost when the French troops were withdrawn. Maximilian was finally forced to retire to Queretaro. From February to June 1867 the city of Queretaro was under siege. The imperial generals were Márquez, Menéndez, Mejía, and Miramón. There is continual conflict between Marquez and Miramon. Maximilian's attitude throughout these events even though he saw the hopelessness of further effort was:

"Un Hapsburgo no retrocede ante el peligro." Maximilian finally is forced to surrender on the Cerro de las Campanas. He is taken to the Convento de la Cruz which he occupied until his execution. Maximilian realized the injustice of a military tribunal declaring: "Una tribunal de militares para juzgar a un Emperador!" Many pleas were made to Juárez to spare the life of Maximilian but to no avail. Among those asking for mercy for Maximilian was Vicente Riva Palacio, the author of Calvario y Tabor and one of the liberals offered a position in the cabinet of Maximilian. He told Juárez that he believed that the "muerte de Maximiliano significara nada menos que el descredito de Mexico." Juárez would reply to all of these pleas that the "law will take its course." There were bribes and attempts on the part of the friends of Maximilian to perfect a plan of escape, but they were all unsuccessful. The place for the trial of Maximilian, Mejía, and Miramón was the Teatro de Iturbide.

Maximilian was shot on June 19, 1867. One of the fictitious heroes in the Republican ranks, Miguel Caballero de los Olivos, commented: "Ya está satisfecha la justicia."

The novel "La Intervención y El Imperio" gives accurately the political situation in Mexico from the

beginning of the intrigues by the Mexican exiles until the death of Maximilian. Especially does "Calvario y Tabor" portray the domestic life of the Mexican people during the intervention and the injustice they suffered at the hands of the French.

Many of the soldiers of the Republican forces had been important men in political and cultural affairs. Vicente Riva Palacio was a lawyer, politician, minister, diplomat, newspaper writer and novelist. He portrays in "Calvario y Tabor" the intimate family life of the period during the time of the French Intervention. Victoriano S. Alvarez was a diplomat, writer and learned man. "Era un profundo conocido de la historia de Mexico." For that reason his novel "La Intervención y El Imperio" reflects the events in a parallel line as do those of a history of the period. Through all these novels the historical trend of the period is followed in the historical novels.

The attitude of the United States throughout this period was one of sympathy toward the Juarez government. There were supporters of the French Intervention in Mexico who actually believed that the United States could be conquered with a small army of 40,000 men and that this task would not offer then any difficulty. After Maximilian had received news from Napoleon that the latter intended

to withdraw the French troops he received another blow. This time it was in the form of a note from the United States. This note declared that that government had secured assurances from the French government of the withdrawal of the troops, and it went on to state that should any European power send Maximilian one ship load of soldiers that that would be justification enough for the United States government to give that country's minister to the United States his passport. The note continued with the emphatic language: "The Intervention of any European power in the internal affairs in Mexico will be considered by this government as a just "causa de guerra."

The imperial government sympathized throughout its existence with the Confederate government. They admired the aristocratic oligarchy established by Jefferson Davis. They realized too that should that government continue it would have no fears as to its recognition. The northern government at Washington had recognized the government sustained by Juárez and had actually given secret aid to its cause.

The French soldiers throughout this period were ruthless in their treatment of the natives. Many of the districts they conquered were completely destroyed. Houses were burned, fields and crops were laid waste and all farm

animals were killed and used by the army. All of these acts were nothing short of vandalism. The trials of the French court martials were nothing but mockery. There was no real semblance of justice. Many times these French officials were questionable in character. The court martial was often used as an instrument of revenge.

The fact is brought out in the "Cerro de las Campanas" that dissension in France was one of the reasons why Napoleon was forced to recall the French troops. The leaders in the French Chamber of Deputies Julio Favre and Señor Thiers saw the tragic end of the monarchical adventure and saw too that France had nothing to gain from continuing her Mexican policy. This fact is brought out in Noll's "From Empire to Republic" and is cited as one of the causes for the recall of the French troops.

Maximilian's life before coming to Mexico is sketched in "El Cerro de las Campanas. He had not had in his existence an hour of tranquility. In the court of Vienna he lived as the brother of the heir, humble and dejected in the presence of Joseph II who did not love him. Flung from his tender years into the torments of the ocean under the pretext of instructing him in the navy, his existence had been a hundred times in danger. Maximilian was not a man of much capacity. He was the don Juan of Austria of

Philip II without having the glory nor the boldness and fearlessness of the bastard of Charles V. He had charge for awhile of Lombardy-Venetia but his brother became jealous of him and retired from him from the position.

These novels verify history, namely that Maximilian was used by Napoleon simply as an instrument for the achieving of his purpose.

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**Typed**

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